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The mysteries of Greece — at 20% off

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GOD AND MAMMON

The debate on how special is Sunday

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30P

THE TIMES

No. 64,821 WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8 1993

UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN SERIALS DIVISION

Attitude to vows questioned

Is Prince fit to rule, asks churchman

By Ruth Gledhill
Religion Correspondent

■ Although the Archdeacon of York has emerged as the voice of the Church's moralist wing, his views on the royal succession attract only limited support

THE Prince of Wales is threatening the survival of the monarchy, and may not be fit to become supreme governor of the Church of England, according to a senior Anglican churchman.

In a hard-hitting article in *The Times* today, the Ven George Austin, Archdeacon of York, says that Prince Charles apparently began to break his marriage vows soon after promising lifelong faithfulness to the Princess of Wales, although no evidence of such a breach has been produced.

Referring to the vows Prince Charles will make at his coronation, the Archdeacon says: "If his attitude to his vows of matrimony was so cavalier, has he the right to be trusted in this second solemnity?" He would feel duty bound to resign if he cheated on his wife because he would have betrayed the trust placed in him. "It may be that Prince Charles has gone too far for that same trust to be restored."

At least one senior bishop supported the Archdeacon, and others have privately expressed their reservations about the prince's fitness to succeed. The Right Rev Nöel Debroy Jones, Bishop of Sodor and Man and former Chaplain of the Fleet, said the breaking of marriage vows was "an indication of a moral flaw which would be worrying". The affair had put a question mark over the leadership of the Prince of Wales.

Speaking on ITN yesterday, Lord St John of Fawsley, a leading constitutional expert and former Tory Cabinet minister, said: "I am afraid heirs to the throne, throughout the ages, have had affairs. After all, if you are the Prince of Wales, everybody — every attractive woman — has an eye on the Prince of Wales and has had throughout the ages. Now one may pass moral judgments one way or the other if one wishes, but this has nothing to do with the constitution, nothing to do with the rights of succession."

Questioning the prince's fitness for a role occupied by every monarch since Henry VIII indicates a division of opinion within the established Church: it fuels a debate already stoked by the Princess of Wales's announcement last Friday that she is withdrawing from most of her public duties, signalling that there is at present little hope of a reconciliation.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, does not oppose Prince Charles's succession to the throne, or as supreme governor of the Church of England and Defender of the Faith. Earlier this year, Dr Carey said he did not rule out a separated or divorced monarch as supreme governor of the Church, but said: "We expect our leaders at every level to embody Christian values."

He recently said divorce should be looked on "more positively" and could sometimes lead to better relationships.

One senior churchmen said: "The Church does not have a view on this. It is almost 12 months since the separation was announced. Pertinent questions about the future of the monarchy and the nature of the coronation service should have been looked at by now. But it all hinges on the confusion in the Church over divorce."

Buckingham Palace has declined to make any formal comment on the Archdeacon's views, first aired on the BBC radio *Today* programme yesterday morning. But sources there indicated their view that the Archdeacon speaks from a personal standpoint. They emphasise that the Queen still wishes and expects to be succeeded by her eldest son.

The Palace has been thoroughly dismissive of newspaper reports this week suggesting first that the Queen wished the line of succession to pass directly to Prince William, and secondly that Dr Carey would feel unable to accept the Prince of Wales as supreme governor of the Church of England. Both reports, it emerged yesterday, were based on an informal meeting Dr Carey had last summer with newspaper executives at which, far from putting forward his own firm views, he merely aired options and possibilities.

Some senior clergy and church members privately support the Archdeacon of York on grounds of traditional morality, but are reluctant to speak out against a future King. Most would not go so far as to question Prince Charles's fitness, believing that his private behaviour does not necessarily reflect on his ability to be King. Any sustained challenge from the Church would almost certainly lead to renewed demands for disestablishment.

Dr Carey opposes disestablishment on the grounds that it would privatise religion and take spirituality of the national agenda. But he supports a revision of the coronation

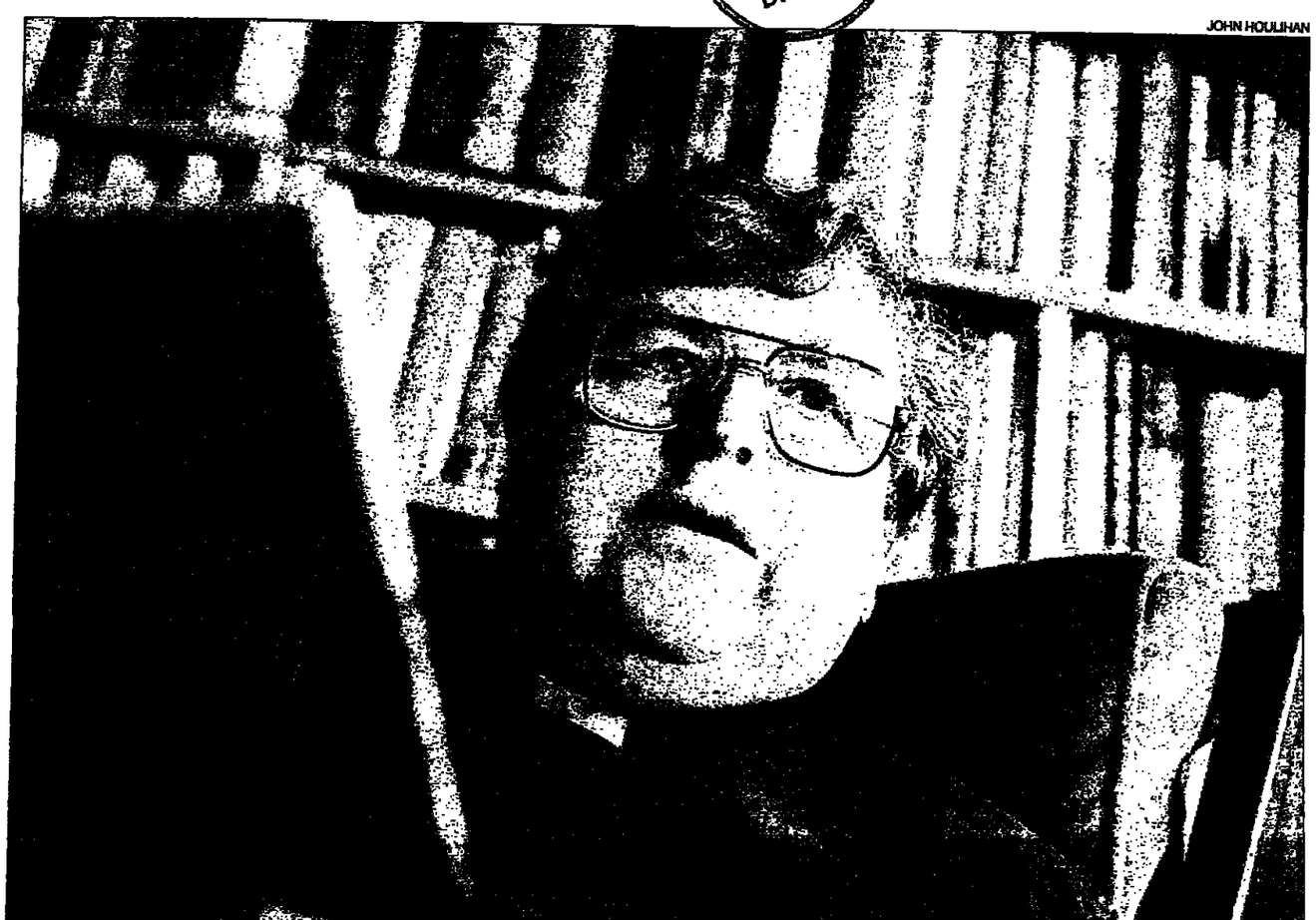
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Crown scandals, page 3
Archdeacon's view, page 16
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Church and state

This so-called "moral argument", whatever the the nature of the Prince's behaviour in marriage, is mischievous, fallacious, aggressive in language and wholly regrettable.

Leading article... page 17



JOHN HOULIHAN

The Ven George Austin, Archdeacon of York, who has questioned the Prince of Wales's fitness to be supreme governor of the Church of England

France ready to throw in towel on Gatt

From Charles Bremner in Paris and George Brock in Brussels

AFTER a year of fierce resistance, France yesterday signalled provisional acceptance of the Blair House pact on agriculture, the centrepiece of any final agreement on the new Gatt round.

Despite a last-minute press conference spoiler from Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister, in which he insisted that there was neither a farm deal nor agreement on other outstanding issues, optimism was rising last night that a final agreement was indeed achievable.

"The conditions for agreement have not been reached on any of the three main headings" of the negotiation on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, M Juppé said. They were the creation of a world trade body, the "audio-visual" and cultural chapter as well as farm trade. On the last, M Juppé said the Blair House agreement had been "profoundly modified" in the direction sought by France.

Officials said US concessions in Brussels had answered most of France's objections. France said final acceptance would depend on her European partners adopting measures to protect French farmers from any losses that went beyond those already required under the common agricultural policy.

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, spoke for the rest of the Community when he said there was no link between the Gatt negotiations and the French demand for compensation but the subject will clearly dominate EC debate in the immediate future.

Further hints of an eventual French acceptance came from Gérard Longuet, the French Trade Minister, when he said last night that in the Brussels negotiations so far "France has not obtained 100 per cent satisfaction. We have got about half and we are trying to have a little bit more, but in such a negotiation we cannot have everything."

There remain seven days for the conclusion of Gatt's "Uruguay Round" negotiations that have lasted seven and a half years.

Sir Leon Brittan, the EC chief trade negotiator, said in Geneva that he "remained totally convinced that the Uruguay Round can and must be completed in the time allocated to it". Mr Hurd said that a deal was "certainly possible and, on balance, probable".

Gatt cliffhanger, page 10
Simon Jenkins, page 16



Lloyd's offers £900m to names

By Sarah Bagnall
Insurance Correspondent

LLOYD'S of London yesterday offered £900 million to more than 21,000 names to compensate them for insurance losses of £5.5 billion. The offer is aimed at ending moves by names, the insurance market's investors, to recover their losses through the courts.

The bulk of names are being offered £100,000 each but 1,500 are not being offered anything, while about 40 names are being offered up to £1 million each. Lloyd's is limiting its offer to any name at two-thirds of their losses.

Names have until the end of January to accept the offer, which requires them to give up the rights to legal action. However, several representatives of names have rejected the offer, declaring it inadequate. A failure to entice names to accept the offer will result in a string of court cases which could last for more than a decade.

The offer has been weighted to favour the market's hardest hit names and those due in court first. As a result, names on the Gooda Walker Action Group, where a Serious Fraud Squad investigation is still continuing, and on Feltrim syndicates stand to gain the lion's share.

Package details, page 23
Pennington, page 25
Take the money, page 27

London hospitals face Bottomley axe at Christmas

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Services Correspondent

THE closure or merger of London hospitals, including Hammersmith and St Bartholomew's, is to be announced by Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, before Christmas to mark the radical reshaping of the capital's health service.

Mrs Bottomley is also likely to announce after Christmas that the Royal Marsden cancer hospital is unlikely to survive on its site in west London. Hammersmith hospital staff and services are expected to move to the Charing Cross hospital, and St Bartholomew's will close, leading to the loss of more than 1,000 beds.

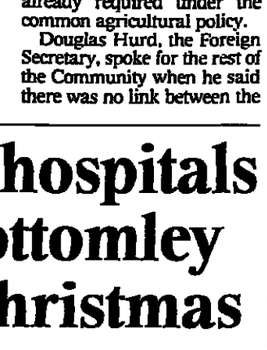
However, ministers are understood to have intervened to save University College hospital, whose closure was threatened by the local health authority on the grounds that patients could be treated more cheaply elsewhere.

Mrs Bottomley will set out her vision for the future of London's health care following a year of discussion on the Tomlinson report which recommended extensive pruning of the capital's hospitals, with the loss of at least 2,500 beds.

Mrs Bottomley has decided it is better to make a "big bang" announcement to minimise uncertainty and give remaining hospitals the best chance of succeeding. The Royal Marsden announcement is likely to be made in January with notice of further changes.

The most contentious decision is that affecting the Marsden. Ministers believe that the cancer hospital should transfer to Sutton, Surrey, in spite of a vigorous campaign to save it that included a 900,000-signature petition to Downing Street last month.

The move was recommended by the review of cancer services in the capital last June which said it would "best preserve and sustain" the hospital's "major historic role." However, a decision may be deferred until the new year.



Bottomley: set for "big bang" announcement

Ministers are also understood to favour the transfer of Hammersmith hospital services to Charing Cross, which would become a new specialist hospital providing cancer and other services for west London. A steering group set up to consider the merger of the two hospitals, which has its final meeting on Friday, has been unable to agree on the choice of site.

The creation of a joint trust

Continued on page 2, col 3

Solicitors ruled out of higher courts

By Frances Gibb, Legal Correspondent

SENIOR judges will later this week reject attempts by solicitors to break the Bar's monopoly of advocacy rights in the higher courts. They are expected to indicate, however, that they would approve any new application by the Law Society for solicitors, excluding those working for the Crown Prosecution Service, to appear in Crown Courts.

The long-awaited decision will be greeted with anger by the Law Society and may signal unprecedented legal action against the judges involved, including the Lord Chancellor and the Lord Chief Justice. But it marks a victory for the Bar in what has been a bitterly fought battle between solicitors and barristers over the past decade.

The decision will be seen by many lawyers as subverting the whole thrust of the Government's own Courts and Legal Services Act 1990, which was specifically aimed at ending the Bar's monopoly and widening consumer choice in legal services.

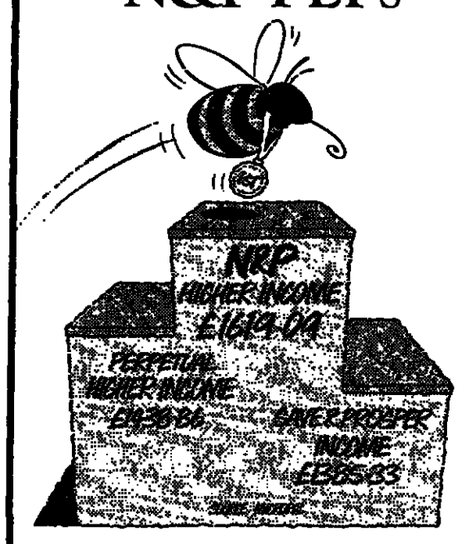
At the heart of the decision is opposition by many senior judges and the Bar to allowing Crown Prosecution Service lawyers into the Crown Courts. The Bar has consistently opposed this on the ground that it would create a state prosecution service that was not independent.

Under the present Bar monopoly, CPS lawyers, solicitors as well as barristers, must brief barristers in private practice for all Crown Court work. The Law Society's application for wider advocacy rights, submitted more than two years ago when the Courts and Legal Services Act came into force, covers both solicitors in private practice and those in the CPS.

The society will be reluctant to abandon the CPS solicitors and may refuse to adopt the

Continued on page 2, col 1

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MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Snarling bears of the past slope off for a snooze

News reaches this column that the Tasmanian parliament has decided to stop printing a *Hansard*-style account of its proceedings, due to lack of public interest, and cost. In future a simple transcript will be typed. Tasmanian enquiries will be answered with photocopies.

I wonder whether we should consider a similar system for Britain, now that Prime Minister's questions is so dull. Where are the twice-weekly screaming-matches with which Neil Kinnock and Margaret Thatcher used to entertain us? Where are the howls of Opposition outrage, the shrieks of Tory fury, the hoots, hisses, cackles and canned laughter?

Backbenchers have taken their cue from snoozing frontbenchers and can hardly be bothered to barrack these days. We used to ask why MPs should behave like hooligans and treat our great Mother of Parliaments like a bear-garden. But now the hooligans have nodded off. The bears have departed. The Press tiptoes away.

All we can offer is booby-prizes. On the Tory back benches there were two nominations yesterday: Peter Luff (C, Worcester) and Michael Fabricant (C, Mid Staffs). In Mr Fabricant's defence it may be said that he does realise the whole thing's absurd, but plays along. To him in a moment.

Mr Luff takes the prize. Yesterday, enquiring (ostensibly) about outside investment in Britain, he asked whether it "does not prove that the Conservative Party has the right policies and the party opposite has the wrong ones?" Answer that, eh, Mr Major! What a teaser! The PM looked stunned.

I knew Mr Luff when he was a youth. He was quite a lively lad. What happens to these people? They get elected, I suppose. Would *I* have become like this if I'd stayed an MP? Was I (horrors) like this when I *was* an MP? Is it worth the knighthood, Peter? Is it worth a parliamentary under-secretaryship?

Mr Fabricant is at least enjoying himself, but we trust he secured his doctor's permission to cite the medical evidence he offered the Health Secretary. Step forward Dr Barry Jones, of Staffordshire. Dr Jones entered the national arena with his view (if Mr Fabricant summarised it fairly) that GP fund-holding is the way forward. It has made doctors more sensitive to the needs of those they serve, the MP explained. Dr Jones — "my own GP", said Mr Fabricant — is now a fundholder and has become "far more responsive" to patients, "including myself".

Dr Jones, here is a message from a grateful nation: thank you for being more responsive to your MP. None of us (except the Tory whips) could bear to think of Mr Fabricant suffering brutality in the surgery or insensitivity on the couch.

The Prime Minister did not arrive in time to hear the good news, but sat down cheerfully, clapping and pressing his hands together with anticipatory gusto. One begins to see why. For the first year or so of the twice-weekly Smith/Major exchanges, honours were equally divided. John Smith was dreadful and John Major was dreadful. Neither won. Most spats ended in a wretched draw.

But now Mr Major is drawing ahead. He is still dreadful, but a bit rougher and markedly more confident. Mr Smith's game simply fails to develop. In a fight between one-armed mud-wrestlers, a slightly sharper elbow can give the edge.

Study this game if you must, but it's very much for addicts. And the day is coming when you will have to ask for photocopies.

Back to do business, Gorbachev enjoys a warm reunion

GERRY PENNY



Mikhail Gorbachev, the last Soviet president, and his wife Raisa are greeted by Baroness Thatcher for lunch at her Belgravia home yesterday. Neither former leader's office wanted to disclose what was on the menu or what was discussed but the Gorbachevs emerged after an hour-and-a-half with an aide clutching four brightly wrapped Christmas presents (Jonathan Prynn writes).

Later Mr Gorbachev, who is on a six-day tour of Britain, shared a platform with Lords Healey and Howe and Sir David Steel before an audience of 2,000 at Central Hall Westminster. They answered questions on international issues.

Mr Gorbachev will lunch with John Major at Downing Street today. He will be presented with the Sir Winston Churchill Award by the wartime leader's daughter Lady Mary Soames and his grandson Winston Churchill MP at Guildhall in the City this evening.

On Thursday, Mr Gorbachev will tour Oxford University. His Friday itinerary takes him to Bristol where he will receive an honorary degree.

Leading article, page 17

Father in clean-break deal loses test case

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A FATHER whose "clean-break" divorce settlement was overturned by the Child Support Agency lost his test case in the High Court yesterday.

The judge who ruled against Gary Crozier, 34, a wood machinist earning £9,390 a year, admitted that her decision was harsh. Mrs Justice Booth ruled that Mr Crozier must pay maintenance despite an earlier "final settlement" in which he gave his ex-wife half of their marital home. She refused his request for the court to set aside the divorce settlement and give him his share from the subsequent sale of the home.

The ruling will affect thousands of divorced fathers who thought that their clean-break divorces were unassailable.

The judgment coincided yesterday with a warning to John Major from the Liberal Democrats that bipartisan support for the CSA might be withdrawn unless ministers acted quickly to alleviate shortcomings in its operation.

The Prime Minister reiterated that the agency's workings were being reviewed by Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary. He also pledged that Mr Lilley would respond as soon as he could to recommendations put forward by the social security select committee calling for changes in the way maintenance is calculated for absent fathers.

Mr Crozier, who has remarried and lives in Gretna Green, Dumfries and Galloway, had agreed a clean-break divorce with his first wife, Jacqueline, in 1989. He signed over his half of the their home in Carlisle in return for not having to pay maintenance for their son Karl, now 9.

Earlier this year the CSA demanded £29 a week in maintenance because his ex-wife was unable to maintain herself and the boy and received income support.

Mrs Justice Booth ruled that although the original settlement was intended by both sides to be a clean break, it contained a provision for nominal maintenance of 5p a year for Karl. This reflected the basic legal principle that the clean-break formula had never applied to the continuing responsibility of a father towards his child. "While the parties were free to achieve a clean break as between themselves, it was outside their powers to do so in respect of their child," she said.

Major wants league tables to expose 'four-day week' schools

BY BEN PRESTON
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

■ Some pupils miss the equivalent of one year's teaching in five because of short hours, but does it mean their education is poorer?

SCHOOLS working the equivalent of a four-day week will be exposed by next year's education league tables under a change proposed yesterday by John Major.

The Prime Minister said that state and independent schools were likely to be required to disclose in the performance tables the number of hours they taught pupils each week, in addition to listing examination and truancy statistics.

His announcement at a citizen's charter conference came as Professor Stewart Sutherland, the Chief Inspector of Schools, published an uncompromising annual report showing that more than 1,000 secondaries failed to teach pupils for the required 24 hours each week. Some pupils were missing out on a day's teaching each week, or a whole year in five, because of variations in the teaching day between schools.

The Prime Minister's move drew immediate criticism from the Labour Party and leading independent schools, who argued that teaching time was virtually meaningless as a measure of education quality. Mr Major said during Commons' question time that action was necessary to ensure pupils were not "short-changed" by inadequate provision, particularly in the inner cities.

Ann Taylor, Labour's education spokeswoman, said: "Spending and the size of classes are of far more importance and interest to parents."

Yesterday's row was sparked by the chief inspector's wide-ranging and forthright report, which warned that "downright poor" standards of teaching stubbornly persisted in thousands of schools. It was unacceptable that one in three primary pupils and almost one in six students in post-16 education were taught inadequately, with the proportion frequently higher in deprived urban areas, he said.

Professor Sutherland said the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) would investigate the impact of differences of up to 20 per cent in the length of the teaching week.

Separate enquiries will examine the reasons for bad teaching and the drift away from sciences and mathematics at A level.

The report concluded that although much in the education system was of satisfactory or high quality, there were many underlying problems. These ranged from bullying to the lack of specialist primary teaching and equipment shortages.

However, in a break from previous reports, Professor Sutherland emphasised the need for efficient use of existing resources in schools and appeared to downplay the problems resulting from buildings needing repairs. He said the case for extra education funding could not be made convincingly until Ofsted finished an investigation into value for money of existing spending in schools.

There was an urgent need to improve school management, he said, because some head teachers and governors were struggling to control substantial annual budgets of up to £2 million. Too many schools were hoarding cash reserves under local management schemes, including one authority where 700 schools had chosen to leave £28 million unspent.

☐ The Education Bill suffered a mauling from peers on all sides yesterday as it was debated in Parliament for the first time. The hostile reaction of some Tory peers at the second reading stage will particularly worry Government whips, who fear backbench rebellions when the bill is scrutinised in committee in the new year.

Solicitors' bid fails

Continued from page 1

compromise solution. It will argue that all solicitors should have the same rights.

In their decision, expected on Friday, the judges are likely to indicate that they do not think CPS lawyers are ready to take on weightier cases. CPS solicitors routinely appear in magistrates' courts.

The announcement will also be a particular blow for Barbara Mills, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, who has campaigned on behalf of lawyers in the CPS. The Law Society refused to comment but said it was "awaiting the judges' decision".

The judges' finding comes after a complex process under machinery set up under the Courts and Legal Services Act that has been described by Lord Donaldson, the former Master of the Rolls, as a "stately quadrille".

Hospitals face axe at Christmas

Continued from page 1

by St Bartholomew's and the Royal London hospitals is expected to receive ministerial approval after its consultation period ends this week. The new trust will seek to concentrate services at the Royal London site in Whitechapel with the closure of St Bartholomew's Smithfield site. A minor injuries clinic could be retained at Smithfield.

The proposed closure of the accident and emergency department at Guy's hospital is also likely to be approved, opening the way for its development as a specialist hospital. St Thomas's which will retain its accident department, would become the main teaching hospital.

However, a plan by Camden and Islington health authority to withdraw non-urgent patients from University College hospital is unlikely to go ahead after ministers asked officials of the London Implementation Group, set up to oversee the health service changes in the capital, to intervene.

The authority, which is due to lose £20 million over five years, is meeting on 11 January to decide. A spokeswoman admitted opposition had been "overwhelming."

State pension 'will become worthless'

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

KENNETH Clarke was at odds with his deputy, Michael Portillo, over the future of the state pension last night as the latest opinion poll suggested that the Budget had failed to improve Conservative fortunes.

The Chancellor's attempt to take the welfare controversy off the agenda failed as the right-wing Treasury Chief Secretary suggested that the old-age pension would be worth only a "nugatory" or trifling amount in the next century.

His claim, made on BBC 2's *Westminster Live* programme, suggested continuing sharp divisions at the top of Tory party over the future of the welfare state.

They appeared to be in direct conflict with Mr Clarke's statement last week that the state pension would never become a "vestigial remain". The Chancellor also opposed the concept of people being allowed to opt out of the basic pension, which Mr Portillo and others on the right have backed.

The differences between the two are mainly ones of emphasis because Mr Portillo was referring mainly to the pension's future value. His remarks will, however, antagonise the Tory left.

Their comments came as the Budget debate ended in the Commons last night, and as a new ICM poll in *The Guardian* suggested a 5-point increase in Labour's lead over the Conservative Party. Labour was on 47 per cent, the Tories on 26 per cent and the Liberal Democrats on 23 per cent.

It is the lowest ICM reading for the Tories for 12 years. The poll was taken last Friday and Saturday and suggests that there has been no immediate gain for the Conservatives from the Budget.



Portillo: at odds with Chancellor over welfare

Churchman challenges Prince

Continued from page 1

oath because the religious make-up of the country has changed.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, said earlier this year that the British public was traditionally tolerant about the behaviour of the royal family but that all tolerance "has its limits".

The former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Coggan, said: "The Prince has not broken his marriage vows because he is not a divorced man." But regarding the succession were he to divorce, Lord Coggan said: "That is a another matter. I hope there will be a reconciliation — don't we all. Leave them alone and let them work it out."

A Church of England spokesman said: "The Archdeacon of York is entitled to express his own opinions on this matter. He does not, however, speak for the Church. It is not the Church's practice to comment on hypothetical personal or pastoral matters relating to individuals."

Sir Ivan Lawrence, Tory chairman of the Commons home affairs select committee, said the Archdeacon had delivered a rather harsh judgment.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Howard turns down plea for more police

The number of police officers in England and Wales is to be frozen for the second year running because of public spending curbs. Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, has rejected requests for an extra 2,525 officers. The announcement came days after he approved a plan for members of Neighbourhood Watch schemes to patrol the streets.

The Home Office has told police authorities that the requests had been turned down because there was a "pressing need for continuing restraint in all areas of public expenditure". The Police Federation said it was time that the Tories delivered on their manifesto promise to provide an extra 1,000 officers. "We are extremely disappointed that at a time when crime is rising and law and order is supposed to be at the top of the political agenda, manpower has been frozen."

RAF base to close

An RAF training base at Chivenor, Devon, is to close next October to save more than £127 million over the next ten years, Jeremy Hanley, armed forces minister, said. The decision to close Chivenor, which employs 119 civilians and 779 servicemen, followed a review of Britain's seven RAF flying stations.

Students stage sit-in

Hundreds of students staged a sit-in at the London School of Economics in protest at cuts to grants and changes in tuition fees. The protesters moved into the old union building after an emergency general meeting, called to discuss the Chancellor's planned 10 per cent cut in grants. A list of demands was handed to the school's director.

Pregnancy payout

A woman dismissed from the RAF for becoming pregnant has been awarded compensation of more than £62,000. Jacqueline Peel, 35, from Leasingham, Lincolnshire, was dismissed by a senior RAF officer as she lay pregnant in a hospital bed in 1987. She is likely to receive an extra sum of about £20,000 in respect of lost pension rights.

Prison governor errs

Max Morrison, the governor of Albany prison on the Isle of Wight, who gave an inmate day leave to attend drug counselling, admitted yesterday that he made a mistake. Richard Tyres, 23, serving six years for taking five hostages at gunpoint, fled last Friday while he and his guard had a pub meal in Bournemouth. He has not been seen since.

£441,000 for Ming jar

A large Ming dynasty "fish jar" painted with orange carp made £441,500 in a sale of Chinese ceramics at Sotheby's in London. The price paid by an unknown Far Eastern buyer was almost double the £242,000 the jar made when it was last sold in 1989. Despite its name, the 16th-century jar would have been used for wine.

Queen could lose her planes in sell-off

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MALCOLM Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, is to consider selling off the aircraft which fly the Queen and the royal family all over the world as part of his attempts to find substantial savings.

The Queen would no longer have immediate access to the three planes and two helicopters of the Queen's Flight, owned by the Ministry of Defence.

The aircraft, and those used for government ministers, will be one of the key areas under examination in the defence cost review announced last week.

The royal yacht *Britannia* is also expected to come under threat. The ship, which costs the state £12.5 million a year, was used by the royal family on 31 days in 1991 and her war role as a hospital ship has been abandoned.

Options under consideration for the Queen's Flight include selling off the five aircraft — three British Aerospace HS146s, with 25 to 40 seats, and two Wessex helicopters — leasing them, or encouraging a management buy out of the service. In each case, the MoD would maintain the right to use the planes as communication aircraft in wartime.

Defence sources also made clear that there was no question of the Queen and foreign heads of state not having access to aircraft for state visits.

If the changes are implemented, they could pose restrictions on the royal family for use of the planes for private visits. Earlier this year, Opposition MPs criticised the Prince of Wales for taking a plane from the Queen's Flight to Rome to visit a medieval village.

Labour MPs were also outraged to discover that a plane from the Queen's Flight had flown nine of her pet corgis and spaniels from London to Balmoral.

Defence officials have been told to identify savings of at least £1.2 billion over the next three years. Savings of up to £800 million have already been identified, but that still leaves a cut of £400m to be found. The review, Front Line First, which is expected to be completed within nine months, is protecting front line operations and does not jeopardise existing service commitments.

The cuts are expected to hit the Royal Navy and the RAF more than land forces, which have already been pruned significantly under Options For Change.

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Protesters lose battle to save ancient tree

■ The removal of a 250-year-old tree and attendant protesters is only one small step towards an M11 extension in east London

BY KATE ALDERSON

THE might of 300 police officers and 150 security men yesterday overcame the protests of about 200 environmentalists trying to protect an ancient chestnut tree in which some of them had set up home.

After a bloody eight-hour battle, in turns violent and farcical, they tore down an ancient chestnut tree, which was blocking a road development in east London.

The combatants struggled and slithered ankle-deep in mud on George's Green, Wanstead, east London. The protesters were defending a 250-year-old tree which blocked the route of a £200 million road link from the M11 to Hackney Wick. Twenty arrests were made and dozens injured before the way was cleared for the contractors' bulldozers and diggers.

During the day the roads surrounding the green were blocked by protesters who threw themselves in the path of a crane and hydraulic lift. Sheriff's officers tried to saw down the branches of trees to which the demonstrators had chained themselves and wrestled with them high in the air on a hydraulic platform. Someone emptied a bucket of excrement over a police superintendent and others urinated on the cordon surrounding the base of the tree.

The drama began at dawn when the sheriff's men arrived. They were as determined to tear down the tree-house in the ancient chestnut tree as the protesters were to save it.

The defenders comprised a minority of local residents and a majority of travelling environmentalists who had established a camp in the tree in defiance of the sheriff's order. A dozen of those who had chained themselves with bicycle locks and handcuffs high in the branches looked down on their supporters who sporadically attempted to break the four-deep cordon of police around the base.

While the mood below the tree turned ugly, among the branches it was beginning to resemble a farce. The sheriff's officers, wearing white hard-hats bearing the blue letters *SHERIFF*, were hoisted up to the tree-camp in a hydraulic lift. One officer, on discovering that the protesters were chained to the tree, cupped his hands and shouted down to his colleagues for a saw.

He then began to remove the branches on which the protesters were hanging and shouted for clippers with which he hacked off the bicycle chains. A number of protesters, some of whom looked to be in danger of falling out of the tree, dangled from the branches until the bitter end. Some were pulled struggling on to the hydraulic platform, others surrendered peacefully.

At the base of the tree the police, security men and protesters jostled violently. A number of protesters suffering bloody noses and ears and accused the police of heavyhandedness and violence. Three private security men were hurt and one is thought to have a serious head injury. He was struck when a hydraulic platform ran back and hit him. A woman protester was also hurt after falling under the vehicle. At the start of the confrontation, Chief Superintendent Stuart Giblin said: "Our job is to assist the sheriff's officers. The protesters are determined to stay put. It's going to be a long day."

The tree was finally bulldozed at 1.30pm to the sound of protesters banging drums, blowing whistles and crying. Matt Luis from Leytonstone, east London, the first person to be removed from the tree, said: "No one wants this road. One thousand houses are going to be destroyed and this is common land, our garden." As the bulldozer finally reduced the chestnut tree to a stump protesters chained themselves to three other trees. A police officer sighed: "Oh God, here we go again." Within an hour all the demonstrators had been removed but vowed to continue their struggle. "We made our point and they haven't won yet," said one. "We are still occupying buildings along the whole length of the new road. Today was just the start."



TONY WHITE

A cordon of police and security officers surrounds the base of the tree, occupied by protesters who chained themselves to its branches

Away with the manger, and all mention of Christmas

BY ANDREW PIERCE

CHRISTMAS does not officially exist in Birmingham. Labour councillors have removed any mention of it from the civic decorations for fear of upsetting the city's ethnic communities.

Santa Claus, Rudolph, the three wise men, angels, nativity scenes and the C-word itself are out. Instead, Birmingham's display has been designed on a multi-religious theme: earth, water, air and fire.

Midlands Tory MPs plan to table motions in the Commons deploring the decision. They have branded the Labour councillors lunatics and anti-British.

Bryan Bird, the deputy leader of the council, said they did not want the city's ethnic groups, such as Hindus, Sikhs, Jews, Chinese and Vietnamese, to feel left out. "The lights can be used to cover other religions," he said.

Warren Hawksley, Tory MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge, said: "The Labour councillors are showing themselves up for what they are, lunatics. People are not going to be told if they should or should not celebrate Christmas.

"We have got to get rid of the industry of changing names just to be politically correct. It is time to call things exactly what they are. The council is being stupid and anti-British."

Patrick Cormack, Tory MP for Staffordshire South, who is a church warden, said the decision "takes my breath away". He added: "I have never heard such pagan balderdash in all my life. Christmas is a Christian festival or it is nothing at all, and we have a particularly British way of celebrating it."

The last word went to Dame Jill Knight, Tory MP for Birmingham's Edgbaston district. She said: "The city council should recognise that it only operates on money donated to it by its citizens, who have every right to recognise their traditional festivities. If we went to live in India, we wouldn't expect Father Christmas to come down the chimney."

The Church's history is interwoven with Crown scandals

Sanctity of royal marriage 'irrelevant to church role'

BY DANIEL JOHNSON

THE Archdeacon of York's argument yesterday, that the Prince of Wales may be unsuitable to become Supreme Governor of the Church of England because he might never have intended to keep his marriage vows, is on dubious historical grounds if the Ven George Austin supposes that the Anglican church has made the monarch's role as its titular head dependent on the sanctity of royal marriages.

Edward VIII's abdication in 1936 was precipitated by a sermon by the Bishop of Bradford, who warned the King to show more awareness of his Christian duty — a reference to his affair with the American divorcée Wallis Simpson. However, there is a world of difference between Edward VIII's situation and that of the Prince.

At least since 1688, Parliament has insisted on sanctioning royal marriages, since they are affairs of state. By seeking to treat his marriage as private, Edward VIII was attempting to overturn the status of the monarchy.

The Prince has broken with no precedent. No objection was raised to the Princess of Wales at the time of their marriage; and whether he has been faithful to her is, in terms of *raison d'état*, irrelevant.



Prince of Wales: has broken no precedent

The Church of England has its origins in one of the most celebrated divorces, that of Henry VIII, who rejoiced in the title awarded him by the Pope of "Defender of the Faith", and Catherine of Aragon. Henry demanded a divorce in 1527, claiming that the marriage had been incestuous as Catherine had previously been married to Henry's brother, but was refused a dispensation by the Pope. In 1531, Henry declared himself "sole protector and supreme head of the English church and clergy"; the following year he ordered bishops to obey him alone, and not Rome; and in 1533 he married Anne Boleyn, by then pregnant.

Four months later, shortly after he had been consecrated as Archbishop of Canterbury by the Pope, Thomas Cranmer supported the King by annulling the marriage to Catherine. In 1534, the Act of Supremacy, much modified since but still valid in essentials, gave the English Reformation the full force of statute. Cranmer's *Book of Common Prayer* was adopted as the prescribed liturgy by Parliament in 1549, and a second, unambiguously Protestant, prayer book issued in 1552.

The theory of Church and State in England derives essentially from the Elizabethan era: above all from Richard Hooker, whose *Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity* (1594) helped to crystallise the fluid arrangements bequeathed by Henry VIII.

Apart from brief periods under Mary Tudor and James II when a return to Roman Catholicism seemed possible, or under the Commonwealth and Protectorate when England was a republic, the monarch's role as head of the Anglican Church has remained secure. It has survived numerous royal scandals: the homosexuality of James I and William III; quasi-official mistresses for Charles II and several of the Hanoverians; and the philandering of Edward VII.

The most serious crisis was, perhaps, George IV's separation from Princess Caroline of Brunswick. George, then Prince of Wales, secretly married Mrs Fitzherbert and, after his accession to the throne in 1820, attempted to have Caroline deprived of the title of queen. He failed, but excluded her from his coronation.

Monarchy threatened, page 1
Leading article, page 17
Media, page 21

THE CORONATION OATH

IN THE traditional coronation oath, the Archbishop of Canterbury asks the new sovereign who is about to be crowned:

"Will you solemnly promise and swear to govern the peoples of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and of your other possessions and territories, according to their respective laws and customs?"

Sovereign: "I solemnly promise to do so."

Archbishop: "Will you to your power cause law and justice, with mercy, to be executed in all your judgments?"

Sovereign: "I will."

Archbishop: "Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the laws of God and the true profession of the Gospel? Will you to the utmost of your power maintain in the United Kingdom the Protestant Reformed Religion established by law?

"And will you maintain and preserve inviolably the settlement of the Church of England, and the doctrine, worship, discipline and government thereof, as by law established in England?

"And will you preserve unto the bishops and clergy of England, and to the churches there committed to their charge, all such rights and privileges, as by law do or shall appertain to them, or any of them?"

Sovereign: "All this I promise to do."

Turbulent priest who wages war on liberals

BY RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

FEW in the Church of England have gained the notoriety of the Ven George Austin, Archdeacon of York, the archetype of the turbulent priest.

He was once famously compared by his Archbishop, Dr John Habgood, to "the Fat Boy in the *Pickwick Papers* who sneaks up on a timid old woman saying, 'I wants to make your flesh creep'."

This did him less that justice. While Mr Austin, 62, is undoubtedly corpulent, he represents a constituency in the middle-to-high ground of the Church that his superiors would be unwise to ignore.

Although he has the ability to hold high office, promotion became unlikely as soon as he developed his unerring talent for speaking his mind in a manner that guaranteed him media attention. Mr Austin, a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's *Thought for the Day*, has long been a critic of liberal tendencies in the Church. He is an opponent of women priests and a determined advocate of high moral standards.

He is a leading Anglo-Catholic and was a friend of the late Dr Gareth Bennett, also a critic of of liberalism in the Church. Mr Austin was thought to be one of those who, according to Dr Bennett, were being denied promotion because of their traditionalist views, and it is likely that his move to York in 1988 was an attempt by Dr Habgood to address this issue.

He sees his role in the Church as often solitary and almost prophetic, but remains determined to speak out against what he sees as a swing to liberalism that could end in feminist liturgies, single-sex marriages and a reinterpretation of the Creed.

George Austin, page 16

Addicted wife hired assassin

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A FORMER top council officer was convicted yesterday of hiring an assassin to kill her husband after he threatened to expose her double life as a gambler and prostitute.

The Central Criminal Court was told that Florence Samarasinha, 41, and her husband Nimal had an affluent lifestyle. She was chief housing benefits officer at Croydon Borough Council, south London. But Mr Samarasinha discovered that his wife had become addicted to one-armed bandits and had turned to prostitution to help fund the addiction that cost her up to £1,000 a week.

He sought a divorce and custody of their teenage daughter. The day before he was due to disclose his wife's activities, he was stabbed outside their home in Wallington, south London, by a man who has never been caught.

The court was told that Samarasinha hired the assassin to protect her reputation and to enable her to cash in life insurance policies that would clear her £34,000 debts. She was convicted of murder and soliciting murder and faces a mandatory life sentence, but Mr Justice Phillips adjourned sentencing until December 17.

Rival camps gather for battle royal

BY BILL FROST

BATTLE lines between sympathisers of the Prince and Princess of Wales have been drawn by newspaper editors, peers, pop stars and politicians.

There seems to be diminishing neutral ground in the national debate over the marriage breakdown. The Princess's adroit handling of the media has won her sympathy in Fleet Street and beyond while the Prince and his aides have been slower to mobilise support for their case.

The *Daily Mail*, though allowing columnists to attack the Princess on occasions, has shown unswerving devotion to her cause. The newspaper supports her without criticising the Prince; well, not too often anyway.

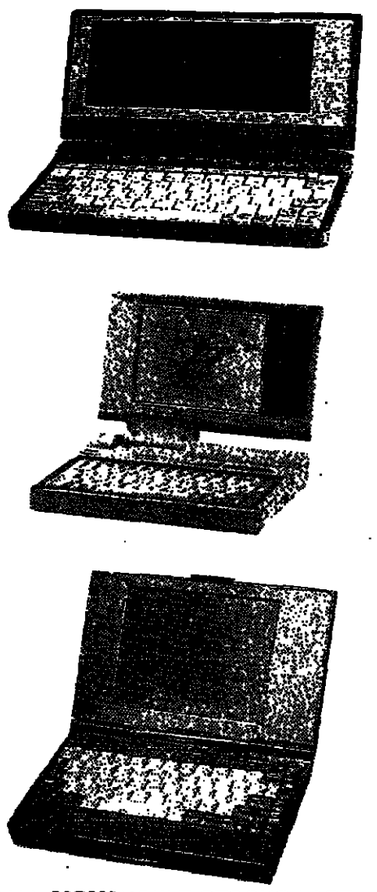
The *Mail on Sunday* has been more ambivalent. Prominence was given to a poll showing the Prince's dwindling popularity. A leading article warned him to ignore the poll at the monarchy's peril.

The *Daily Express* has consistently supported the Prince. So too have *The Daily Telegraph* and its Sunday stablemate. One particularly partisan article in *The Daily Telegraph* was rumoured to have concerned even the Prince's stoutest supporters at the Palace, said to have thought it verged on hagiography.

Despite publishing those notorious pictures of the Princess at a London gym, the *Daily Mirror* has consistently supported her. So too have *Today* and, with occasional lapses, *The Sun*.

Among the Great and the Good, the Prince's supporters appear outgunned. The Princess has gathered a formidable team around her. Sir Gordon Reece, once a key Thatcher aide, is said to have worked tirelessly on the Princess's behalf to achieve a reconciliation between the couple. Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare is said to be a key adviser on image presentation. Lord Palumbo lines up with the Princess too. Cynics erroneously claim this has something to do with a difference of opinion with the Prince over modern architecture.

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- IS INCONSISTENT AND UNWORKABLE (3)
- LEAVES THE ISSUE UNRESOLVED (4)

TICK HERE

THE SHRC SIX-HOURS COMPROMISE:

- GIVES THE PUBLIC WHAT THEY WANT (5)
- GIVES THE WORKERS WHAT THEY WANT (6)
- HELPS SMALL SHOPS (7)
- PROTECTS SHOP-WORKERS (8)

TICK HERE

(1) More than 10 major opinion polls show that two-thirds of voters want to be able to shop on Sundays.

(2) It is estimated that 140,000 shop-workers will lose out on well-paid Sunday work.

(3) Under the RSAR/KSSC option some goods can be sold in some shops and not in others; it's unfair because it creates an unequal playing field for business.

(4) Because every poll shows that super-markets are the most popular places for Sunday shopping, this option will not meet consumers' needs and will fail to give MPs what they want – a permanent solution.

(5) See (1) above.

(6) The shopworkers' union USDAW has written to MPs in support of the SHRC option.

(7) Small shops will be able to open all day; larger ones for only six hours. This more than protects the interests of small shopkeepers.

(8) The Government has conceded the need for statutory protection for shop-workers. This makes Sunday working completely voluntary.

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WPC wins apology and promotion after harassment

By Richard Ford
Home Correspondent

■ The Metropolitan police will be trained in racial and sexual awareness after the case of an officer victimised by colleagues

PAUL Condon, the Metropolitan Police commissioner, apologised to a woman officer yesterday after admitting that she had suffered sexual and racial harassment at work.

The apology came after Constable Sarah Locker, 32, was awarded more than £32,000 in an out-of-court settlement of her case alleging discrimination. She will also be promoted to detective constable.

As part of the deal, a senior commander at the Metropolitan police read out a statement including Mr Condon's apology, and shook hands with WPC Locker. A male detective constable involved in the case will also apologise to her in writing and in person.

WPC Locker said: "I have achieved what seemed to be the impossible. I just hope that other women have the courage to step out and fight for what they know and believe is right."

The award is the highest made public in an out-of-court settlement for injury of feelings. It came after a two-year campaign by WPC Locker, who is of Turkish origin. She was initially offered £250 by the Metropolitan police, according to her solicitor.

Scotland Yard is to set up a woman's support network to help those who face discrimination. All ranks are to receive training within the next year in equal opportunities and race awareness.

WPC Locker, from Essex, who is married to a Metropolitan police officer, claimed that she was repeatedly passed over for promotion to the Criminal Investigation Department because of her sex and colour. When she complained she was put through gruellings interviews by officers, despite her being pregnant. She said that pornographic magazines and a racially abusive note had been left on her desk at Leman Street police station in east London and that signs saying "Mad Turks" had been displayed. A spoof application for specialist training contained racial and sexual abuse including reference to "nice greasy Mediterranean boys".

Yesterday she sat next to Commander John Grieve at a press conference in Scotland Yard at which the settlement of her case was announced. Commander Grieve said: "I am authorised by the commissioner to express his deepest regret about the stress which has been caused to Sarah Locker by these events."

He said that WPC Locker had complained of being handed a document which amounted to racial and sexual harassment. "The force of this complaint is recognised and, on behalf of the commissioner I apologise." At the end of the press conference and he shook hands with WPC Locker and kissed her on the cheek.



Locker: promoted as part of settlement deal

WPC Locker, whose claim was backed by the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Commission for Racial Equality, said: "This is a tremendous day for me. The commissioner has now made offers which I believe amount to sufficient recompense for my unpleasant experiences."

She had claimed that she was often used as an interpreter because of her Turkish origins, and was then criticised for spending too long away from her duties.

Commander Grieve said: "She complained that her work on those operations was undervalued. The commissioner recognises that her career was mismanaged ... and he apologises for that."

He added that Mr Condon had always denied that WPC Locker's non-selection to the CID had anything to do with her race or sex.

Jane Deighton, solicitor for WPC Locker, said that Mr Condon should be ashamed of the way he had conducted proceedings. "At every stage the commissioner has thrown obstacles in our way. It is only as a result of her tenacity and courage that, at each obstacle, she has carried on."

Lawyers for WPC Locker complained that they were unable to process her case because of a restriction that officers could be interviewed only in the presence of a senior officer. Last week, the Appeal Court ruled that this obstacle could be a contempt of court and accepted a police undertaking that the restriction would be withdrawn.



ALEX SKIBINSKI

Gary and Sharon Windsor hope that Michael, their 11-week-old baby, will be home in time for Christmas

Sick baby's parents get vital phone link

By Dominic Kennedy

A COUPLE who could not take their sick baby home until they had a telephone were celebrating its installation last night. British Telecom waived its usual deposit and installed the telephone for £36.78 as benefactors raced to pay for it after extensive media coverage.

The baby's consultant at Singleton Hospital, Swansea, Dr Dewi Evans, criticised Powys social services for failing to provide a telephone at the remote family home in Llanidloes.

Michael Windsor's parents Gary, 36, and Sharon, 20, both unemployed, are being paid £167 a week by the DSS so that they can travel 93 miles to visit him.

After he was born prematurely, Michael needed life-supporting intensive care to survive. Now 11 weeks old, he is almost ready to leave the specialist hospital. But Dr Evans was unwilling to allow him to go home without a telephone as he will continue to need oxygen and has a high risk of cot death.

Powys social services, which referred a community health service query about a telephone to a charity, yesterday said that it had received "no direct approach from the family but in the light of additional information we have now contacted them".

Detective denies causing road deaths

By Robin Young

TWO men died when a detective constable in an unmarked police car drove on the wrong side of the road into the path of a stolen police motorcycle, a court was told yesterday.

The motorcycle had been stolen from outside an officer's house in Bristol in July last year, Winchester Crown Court was told. Shaun Starr, 32, and his passenger Keith Buck, 18, died instantly when Det Con Robert Wallington intercepted them in what Michael Kallisher QC, for the prosecution, said was a "highly dangerous" piece of driving.

Det Con Wallington denies causing the deaths of both men by dangerous driving. Det Con Anthony Knight, alleged to have driven an unmarked car on the wrong side of the road toward the motorbike just before the collision, denies dangerous driving.

Mr Kallisher said that in "an extremely dangerous manoeuvre" Mr Knight had driven into the path of the motorcycle, so that it had to brake and "swerve severely". Thirty seconds later, Det Con Wallington crossed the road into the path of the motorcycle when it was too close to take evasive action or stop.

Mr Knight, in police interviews, admitted overtaking vehicles but denied swerving across the road or trying to stop the motorcycle. In a written statement, Mr Wallington admitted driving across the road, but said he had intended to give the motorcycle enough time to stop or room to pass. The trial continues.

Fugitive father may settle in Cyprus

From Christoper Walker in Hurghada

THE father who fled with his son to Egypt to escape court custody arrangements said yesterday that they may go to northern Cyprus.

Peter Malkin, who abducted his son Oliver, 12, from France where he lived with his mother and stepfather, was speaking in Cairo as sequestrators served a notice on his country club in Kent.

Mr Malkin, 54, claimed yesterday that the Egyptians were willing to extend his three-month tourist visa. "I am now in the process of ensuring my son gets books from the British international school in Cairo and a tutor to keep up his education," he said.

In case the Egyptians change their minds, Mr Malkin was making enquiries yesterday about moving to the self-styled Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, where he would live alongside Asil Nadir and other fugitives from the British legal system.

Local sources said that Mr Malkin had also been enquiring about hiring a boat capable of travelling long distances.

Legal advisers have told him that his son will be in a stronger position to declare which parent he wants to live with when he reaches his fourteenth birthday in 15 months.

"I have also been told that if we return to England after that, I may have to go to prison," Mr Malkin said. "I am quite prepared for jail. It will have been worth it to have the opportunity to bring up my son in the meantime."

Mr Malkin is convinced publicity will support his argument that the boy should not be returned to France or put into care in England, the alternatives he faces if they return to Britain. "The government has been acting to keep my son off British television screens because they know he will say his choice is to be with me," the businessman claimed. "Anyone who comes here can see we are happy to be in each other's company."

Officials from Clark Whitehill, the chartered accountant appointed by the High Court family division, served a writ on Bridge Manor Country Club, near Canterbury, and its assets.

Mark Riley, of Clark Whitehill, read a statement saying: "I not only have the power to seize his assets but also to sell them. It is not my intention to seek closure of the club; my role is to bring his assets to the control of the court."

Boys put on remand in death threat case

By Paul Wilkinson

TWO boys who allegedly threatened to kill a six-year-old boy four days after the James Bulger murder verdicts have been remanded into the care of a local authority for a week.

The two, aged 10 and 11, made a brief appearance in Newcastle upon Tyne youth court yesterday.

The incident allegedly took place on a railway line. The two are accused of tying up the victim, stabbing him in the arm with a penknife and trying to get him to electrocute himself on the track of the Newcastle upon Tyne rail system at Shieldfield on November 28. They are also accused of indecently assaulting the boy and his two brothers, aged seven and ten, and causing actual bodily harm to the boy and one brother.

Neither accused boy spoke during the hearing, but the older boy was visibly distressed. His companion remained expressionless.

Colin Darroch, for the prosecution, said that he would not proceed with the allegations for four weeks. The panel chairman made an order forbidding identification.

Pop goes the funeral march

By Dominic Kennedy

WHEN Peter Sellers departed on his final journey to the accompaniment of Glenn Miller's *In The Mood*, he changed the British way of death forever.

Gone are the days when a tearful rendition of *Abide With Me* sufficed. A survey of crematoria published yesterday shows that Whitney Houston's *I Will Always Love You* is top of the funereal pops. Such is the demand for pop songs at funerals that crematoria are installing the latest audio technology to match the sound reproduction enjoyed by the deceased during their lifetime.

"CD players are being installed everywhere now. They have become the norm," said Chris Johns, who runs the Golders Green crematorium where Sellers' funeral took place.

Behind Whitney Houston's best-selling romantic ballad are Pavarotti singing *Nessun Dorma*, still basking in the popularity it enjoyed during the World Cup three and a half years ago, and that personal anthem of many, *My Way*. Other favourites are songs by Queen, Phil Collins, Max Bygraves, and Elvis Presley.

Peter Mitchel, the manager of a crematorium in Wrexham, Clwyd, has placed stereo speakers outside for those who can't get in to the best-attended funerals. He allowed one family to play a tape of themselves singing their father's favourite country-and-western song.

However, the requests can prove embarrassing. Peter David, the organist at Bridgend crematorium, Mid Glamorgan, yesterday recalled the time he was asked to play *My Way* for a man who had killed himself. "It was a bit tricky, but I coped, and the family sang the words," he said.

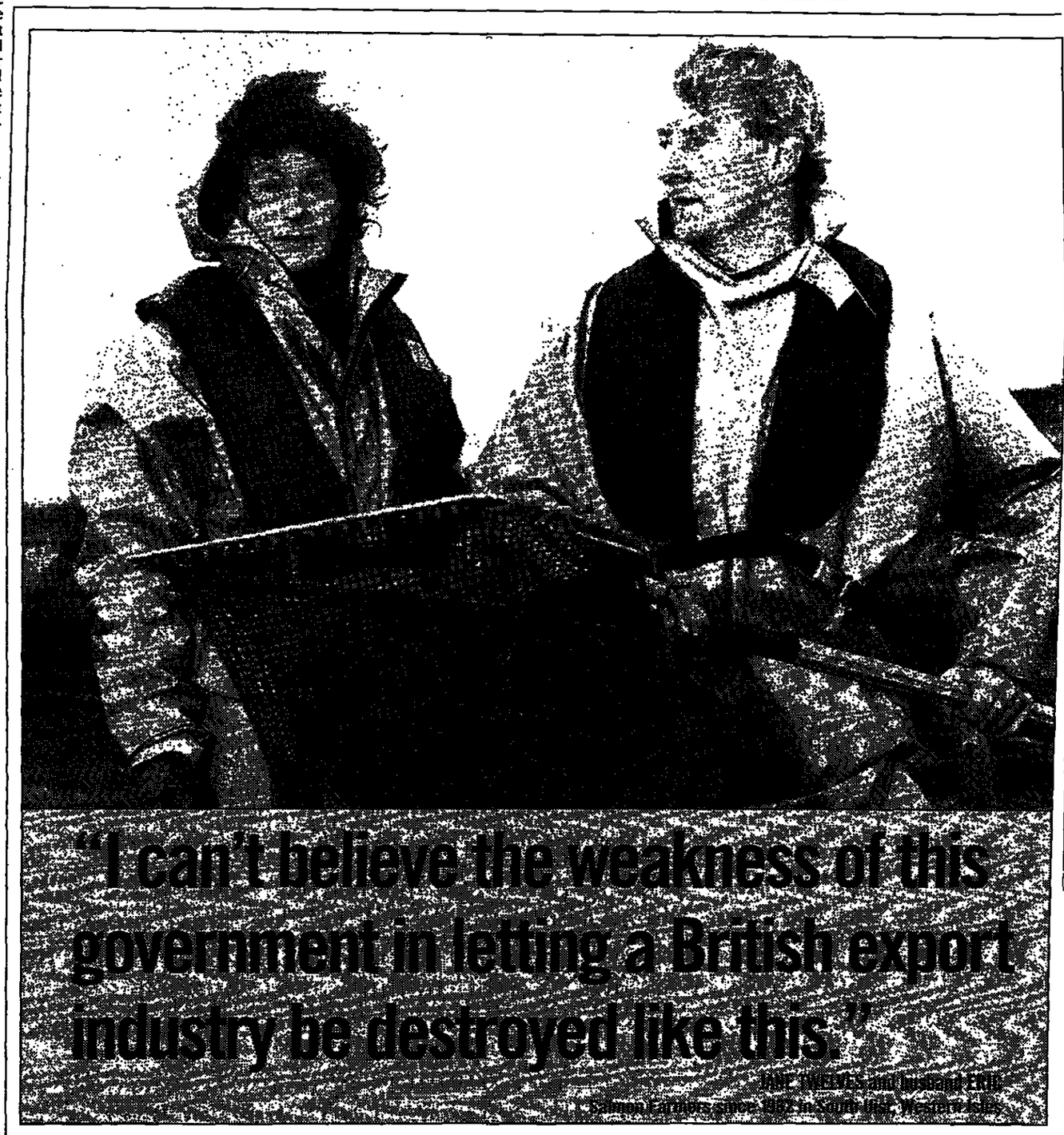
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THE FACTS

Dumping: For the third time in five years the Norwegians are flooding the market. In 1990 they were found guilty of dumping in Europe and they were thrown out of the USA for the same offence. Now they are doing it again.
Subsidies: The Norwegian salmon industry only survives today because it was saved from bankruptcy by a whopping £150 million subsidy from the Norwegian Government.
Now: The European Commission are trying to avert the crisis. Under pressure from the Norwegian Government they have set a totally unrealistic minimum import price – below production costs in both Scotland and of course in Norway.

And that lets the Norwegians go on dumping their massive excess production in the EU.

HOW DID THIS COME ABOUT?

The Norwegian Government knows its way around Brussels and is doing its damnedest to help its industry.

The Scottish Salmon Industry

BUT WHAT IS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DOING?

Practically nothing. It hasn't complained, it hasn't objected, and when asked to vote for the Scottish Salmon farmers in Brussels – it always abstains!

BUT WHY IS THIS THE CASE?

Is it because the Foreign Office insist that we don't upset the Norwegians so they vote to enter the EU? . . Or is it because there are no Conservative MPs with salmon farms in their constituencies?

DON'T THE 8,000 PEOPLE IN SCOTLAND WHO WILL LOSE THEIR JOBS DESERVE BETTER THAN THIS?

"That's what we're asking", say Jane and Eric Twelves. "We don't want subsidies, all we want is a level playing field, and the British Government to get going in Brussels. They must demand free and fair competition. Before it's too late."

SCOTTISH SALMON • FIGHTING FOR EXPORTS • FIGHTING FOR JOBS • FIGHTING FOR SURVIVAL

'More than 600 people were killed last year by this deliberate and senseless act of violence'

Minister backs zero level for drivers who drink

BY TIM JONES AND KEVIN EASON

A ZERO alcohol limit could be introduced for motorists, a transport minister suggested yesterday as he announced a £1 million Christmas television advertising campaign.

Robert Key said that drinking and driving, an issue with "appalling and horrific consequences", must be confronted. More than 600 people lost their lives and over 3,200 were seriously injured last year because of a "deliberate and senseless act of violence — drinking and driving," he said.

The roads minister's warning was made as a motoring report disclosed that almost three quarters of motorists believed the limit should be made zero for consuming alcohol before driving. At present, a driver is fined and loses his licence if he exceeds 80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood.

For a healthy man who has had a meal, that is roughly equal to a pint and a half of beer or three glasses of wine or three shorts. For a woman, the limit might be less. Within the EC, only Holland, Portugal and Greece have a lower blood/alcohol limit. Other member states have a limit of 80 and Ireland's is 100. Mr Key acknowledged that reducing the limit to zero would cause problems but said it was an issue which Parliament would wish to debate.

Yesterday, as he launched the television campaign, he constantly said the only sensible course for drivers was to drink no alcohol. "If you are going to drink then you should not drive. Whatever limit you set, the only safe limit is zero."

The campaign depicts a jolly Christmas dinner pary where a young woman is waiting for her boy friend, who has stopped off to have a "quick drink" on the way. The jollity turns to anguish when she receives a telephone call, telling her he is dead.

Supt Chris Leithead, of the traffic branch of the Metropolitan police, said his experience convinced him that aiming the campaign at women was correct. He recalled interrupting a dinner party 20 years ago to tell the hostess her husband had been killed on the M1 after drinking. "It was the ultimate conversation stopper.

"I have no doubt that women can bring enormous influence to bear on this whole question. They are less macho than men when it comes to drinking and driving."

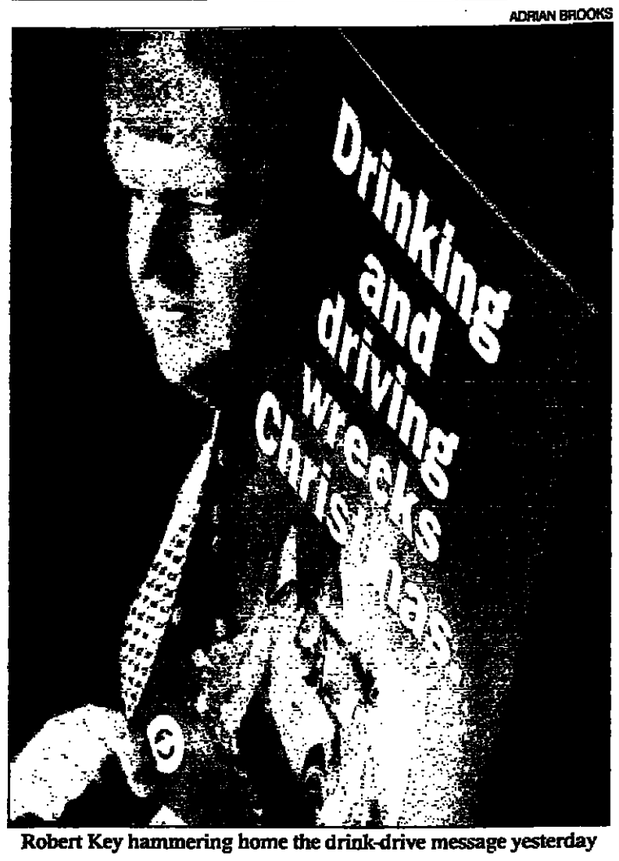
The campaign is aimed primarily at 18 to 30-year-olds, thought to be the group most at risk from the temptations of Christmas office parties and festivities.

Mr Key said: "Drinking and driving is anti-social behaviour at its worst, yet people still do it. Even one drink can affect not only your reaction but also your judgment."

Over the past ten years, drink-driving offences have plunged. In 1982, drink-drive deaths totalled 1,550. Provisional figures for 1992 show such fatalities were down to 610. Last year, 108,856 drivers and riders in road injury accidents were breath-tested, with a 7.3 per cent failure rate. That compared with 43,341 drivers and motorcycle riders being breath-tested in 1982, with a 31.1 failure rate.

Edmund King, campaigns manager of the RAC, warned motorists to beware drunken pedestrians when they were driving home. He said 30 per cent of adult pedestrians involved in fatal accidents were over the legal limit for driving.

ADRIAN BROOKS



Robert Key hammering home the drink-drive message yesterday

Steer clear of DIY breath testers, police tell motorists

BY KEVIN EASON AND ANDREW PIERCE

POLICE warned motorists last night not to rely on do-it-yourself alcohol breath tests to beat the Christmas blitz on drinking and driving.

The Association of Chief Police Officers said that there was no evidence that new equipment claiming to give drivers a guide to blood-alcohol levels was reliable.

Alkontrol Imports UK is one company that imports a personal alcohol tester. The Ensure machine, which costs £169 and conforms to government standards in five countries including the United States and Australia, is about the size of a personal stereo.

It gives a reading in a series of lights against an electronic bar graph with green showing no alcohol up to red indicating that the motorist must not drive. The machine uses microprocessors which, the manufacturer claims, make it as accurate as a police breath-test machine. Stuart Brown, the importer, said: "At the moment, there is no encouragement towards self-testing. Yet many might have been saved from losing their licences if they had used one. The police should not discourage that."

Police said, however, that blood-alcohol limits changed and testers gave no indication of the time taken to absorb alcohol or how long it took to go through the body.

Dr Richard Emerson, a former Home Office expert on drink-driving, said that motorists should beware of cheap alcohol breath meters that could be "hopelessly unreliable". "The body takes time to metabolise alcohol and rates are different," he said. "Simply picking up a breath-test machine and taking a sample is not enough and could lead many to believe they were fit to drive when they were not."

A test of the machine produced some surprising results in a random survey of lunch-time drinkers in the City of London yesterday. Several office workers proclaimed that they were fit to drive, but after blowing into the machine discovered they were way over the limit. "It would make me think twice," said Gavin Altree-Williams, 24, an accountant. "It has to be a sensible precaution. It is too expensive, but I think when, inevitably, the price comes down it will be a big seller."

Mark Hughes, 22, a shipbroker, was on his third pint and, at more than 6ft and weighing about 12st, thought he was under the limit, yet the light shot to the top. Mr Hughes, from Hammersmith, was not impressed. "I am not convinced it is accurate." His colleague James Morris, 32, from Blackheath, who was downing his second pint after five the night before, was under the limit.

Too much cheap beer will cost trippers dear

BY A STAFF REPORTER

DAY trippers returning to Britain from France with their vehicles dangerously overloaded with cheap wine, beer and spirits face fines of up to £5,000.

Kent County Council said yesterday that inspectors would clamp down on overladen vans in the run-up to Christmas. Drivers who ignored weight limits as they piled cases of beer into their vehicles did so at their peril.

One day tripper on the Christmas drinks run was stopped and found to be carrying more than a tonne too much beer. His van was pulled over by inspectors as it travelled along the A2 and was found to be 42 per cent overloaded — the equivalent of 3,400 bottles of French lager.

Yesterday, inspectors stopped a number of other vehicles travelling home from the Kent ferry ports. Among them was a horse box which was half a tonne over the limit.

Vans stopped and found to be overloaded are held until their loads have been reduced. Drivers face prosecution and fines of up to £5,000, as well as licence penalty points.

John Simmonds, head of Kent's trading standards operations, said: "Anything significantly above the maximum weight creates a danger to the driver, passengers and other road users."

A guide for drivers on the drinks run shows that a case of 24 of the 25cl bottles of lager weighs about 10kg or 22lb. A six-bottle case of wine weighs 8kg or 17lb, and a case of 24 cans of beer 12kg or 28lb.

Lawyers in Levitt case carry on arguing

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

LEADING QCs in the Roger Levitt case are at odds after the judge criticised the defence counsel.

David Cocks QC, who prosecuted the case, has lodged a complaint with the Bar Council's professional conduct committee against Jonathan Goldberg QC, Levitt's counsel, accused by the judge of causing "some prejudice" and making "grave representations".

Mr Goldberg, who is on holiday abroad, yesterday said he would fight "this false allegation tooth and nail", but would leave detailed refutation "to the appropriate forum at the proper time".

His friends said he was being made a scapegoat by the Serious Fraud Office after the furore when Levitt was sentenced to 180 hours' community service. Levitt had admitted lying to City regulators about his failing business. "They are looking for someone to blame for their own incompetence," one lawyer said.

The prosecution maintains that remarks by Mr Goldberg in his opening speech to the jury jeopardised its case. The prosecution sought a retrial, but the judge refused.

John Perry, Levitt's solicitor, said there had been a campaign "to lead people to believe that Mr Goldberg's opening speech coupled with the refusal of the judge to order a retrial railroaded the SFO into accepting Mr Levitt's minimal plea. That is nonsense."

Friends of Mr Goldberg say the prosecution made a "catastrophic series of blunders" which the defence exploited and which are expected to be raised in the Commons.

Letters, page 17

NEWS IN BRIEF

Priest kept hoard of child porn

A clergyman was fined £1,000 after a raid by the obscene publications squad uncovered a large quantity of child pornography at his home. Jack Woods, 53, admitted having indecent videos, magazines and a book.

Camberwell magistrates were told that the priest, from West Norwood, south London, claimed most of the material was obtained more than 10 years ago when indecency laws were less vigorously enforced.

Meningitis alert

A girl aged 14 months has died from meningitis. Seven hundred pupils at a school near by in Weston-super-Mare, Avon, have been given antibiotics after the disease was contracted by two students, who are recovering.

£1m DSS find

Forged DSS payment books with a potential value of more than £1 million were found at a hotel on the M5 in Somerset after a receptionist became suspicious of three guests.

Lock charged

Tony Lock, the former Test cricketer who was cleared in Australia last week of indecently assaulting a girl aged 15, was charged with four offences involving a girl aged 10.

Hit and run

Elizabeth Hanlon, 70, died after being hit by a stolen car near her home in Hartlepool. The driver did not stop.

No to the eyes

A hypnotist has been banned in Cheltenham because councillors say his act is a "threat to public safety".



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Killer of man with three mistresses is jailed for life

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A MAN who bound and gagged his mother's lover, kept him in a bitterly cold lock-up, stabbed him to death and burnt the body beyond recognition was jailed for life yesterday.

Judge Nina Lowry described the murder by Karl Watson as "deliberate, calculated cruelty". She recommended that he serve a minimum of 20 years for killing John Shippey, a 47-year-old businessman.

She said at the Old Bailey: "Anyone capable of such cruelty against a fellow human being may repeat it."

After the killing, Watson, a 29-year-old car dealer, put the body in a car boot and set it on fire in a country lane.

The court had been told that Watson's mother Josephine was one of four women in the life of the murdered man, a £40,000-a-year finance director at Doves, the Jaguar and Ford dealership in Croydon, south London. It also emerged that Mr Shippey had embezzled £800,000 from the company to finance his "extraordinary" lifestyle.

He owned three properties in this country, two luxury apartments in Spain, three cars, including a Porsche, and an eight-berth motor cruiser called *John Boy*. He also had £180,000 in bank accounts in Switzerland, Jersey, Spain and Gibraltar.

Mr Shippey and his wife Sheila had a daughter to whom he was devoted and he bought them a house in a private residential complex.

The other women in his life were Sue Hipperson, another Doves employee, and Christine Milson, the barmaid of his local pub. Each knew about some of her rivals and accepted the situation.

Mr Shippey, a man described as having a charismatic personality, always carried one or two briefcases in which he kept up to £50,000 and meticulous records of his complex financial dealings.

Watson's mother met her lover in the 1970s when she worked as a secretary for Doves, and their relationship survived his marriage in 1980 to Sheila, another employee.

When new auditors moved in to check the company books, Mr Shippey needed money to hide his deception and Watson's mother was afraid that he would sell the £250,000 house in Ightham, Kent, that he shared with her and on which she had lavished care and money.

The court was told that before the murder their volatile relationship had begun to deteriorate and they argued over trivial matters.

Watson had never liked his mother's lover, although he envied his money, and police believe the motive for the murder was money.

Watson struck at his mother's home after an evening out with her and friends. Exactly what happened at the house was not made clear in court, but it ended with Mr Shippey being taken, bound and gagged, to a bitterly cold lock-up on an industrial estate, where he was held in his company Ford Sierra.

Bruce Cousins, who helped to dispose of the body and whose confession led to Watson's arrest, told the court that the lock-up was so cold that he went home to get a heater to warm Mr Shippey.

Cousins said Watson raged at his victim "You should have paid her the money" before going "absolutely berserk" and plunging the knife into his chest.

The body was driven to a deserted spot at Merstham, Surrey, where it was burnt beyond recognition with the use of gas canisters.

Watson, married with four children, from Croydon, was convicted late on Monday.

He had denied murdering Mr Shippey and falsely imprisoning him in December 1991. He was given a further seven years for false imprisonment.

Cousins, 25, of Croydon, admitted helping to dispose of the body and will be sentenced later.

Outside the court, Chief Supt Pat Crossan said: "The judge described this as a planned kidnap, ruthless in the way he detained him. I agree with her. The severity of the sentence must reflect the kind of character involved and the manner of the crime."



Clockwise from top left: John Shippey, the murdered man; the house he shared with Josephine Watson; the burnt-out car in which his charred remains were found; and his killer, Karl Watson, the son of his mistress

Gene faults 'should be kept from insurers'

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

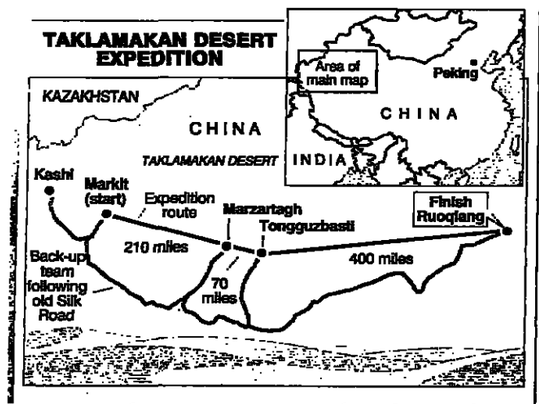
PEOPLE with genetic defects should be allowed to conceal them when applying for life insurance, a report published yesterday says.

Only if the cover sought is very big, or a family history of disease is disclosed by conventional questions, should insurance companies be allowed to require disclosure, the Nuffield Council on Bioethics says. The council says that only in exceptional circumstances should information acquired by testing be made available to a third party.

"There can be no compulsion to take tests, and the central issue is respect for the individual," said Dame June Lloyd, who chaired the working party producing the report. "But there may be occasions where disclosure to other family members has to be considered."

Those whose tests were positive might risk being denied life assurance — and possibly the opportunity of a mortgage.

The report calls for discussions between the government and the insurance industry over the use of genetic data, and meanwhile for a moratorium on companies requiring that applicants for moderate-sized policies disclose the results of tests.



Poplar trees thrive in the desert of death

BY JOHN YOUNG

IN NORTHWEST China's Taklamakan desert a poplar forest is flourishing with no evident source of water. It was one of many discoveries made by a team led by Major Charles Blackmore, of the Royal Green Jackets, which has completed the first crossing of the so-called "desert of death".

Safely back in London yesterday, Major Blackmore said the expedition came upon the forest beside a dried-up river bed. "We dug holes in search of the water supply, but found nothing," he said.

The expedition covered 780 miles in 59 days, across sand dunes up to 1,000ft high and a mile or more wide, in temperatures ranging from 100F to minus 20F. Its members — four Britons, an American, two Chinese and four local camel handlers — were supported by a back-up team travelling in four-wheel drive vehicles along the old silk road south of the desert.

The travellers were at one point forced to share their precious water supplies with their 30 camels. "It is the most dangerous desert on earth," Major Blackmore said.

"It is surrounded by three mountain ranges." The tribesmen agreed to go only because they believed the team was searching for gold.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Oviedo tournament

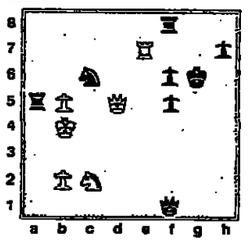
AFTER nine rounds of the 600-player tournament at Oviedo in Spain, the lead with 8 points is shared by Leonid Yudasin, Ilya Smirin and Miguel Illescas, ahead of such luminaries as Judith Polgar, Jan Timman, Vishy Anand, Artur Yusupov and Tony Miles. The most violent game, and one of great importance for the theory of chess openings, was the win by the middle Polgar sister Sofia against the Russian grandmaster Vaiser in the fashionably sharp counter-attacking system, the Benko Gambit. Polgar's plan of rupturing the centre and sacrificing a piece to hound the white king constitutes a new way of handling the black position. The climax of the black attack came on move 31 with ... Nc6+ when 32 bxc6 fails to 32 ... Rxd5.

White: Anatoly Vaiser
Black: Sofia Polgar
Oviedo Tournament
December 1993

Benko Gambit

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	c5
3	d5	b5
4	cxb5	a6
5	f3	g6
6	e4	d6
7	a4	Bg7
8	Na3	0-0
9	Na2	e6
10	Nc3	exd5
11	Nxd5	Nxe4
12	fxe4	Qh4+
13	Kd2	Qxe4
14	Qf3	Bh6+
15	Kc3	Qe1+
16	Kb3	Bxc1
17	Bc4	Qxh1
18	Ne7+	Kg7
19	Qc3+	f6
20	Rxc1	Qxh2
21	Re1	axb5
22	axb5	Bb7
23	Nf5+	gxf5
24	Re7+	Kg6
25	Rxb7	Qxg2
26	Re7	d5
27	Bf1	Qg4
28	Qxc5	Qd1+
29	Nc2	Qxf1
30	Qxd5	Ra5
31	Kb4	Nc6+

Position after Black's 31st move



32	Qxc6	Rfa8
33	Qd5	Qf4+
34	Kc3	Rc8+
35	Kd3	Qf1+
36	Ke3	f4+
37	Kd2	Qf2+
38	Re2	Rxc2+

White resigns

Belgrade

In the powerful Investbanka tournament at Belgrade, former British champion Julian Hodgson has got off to a good start with draws against two of the favourites, Evgeny Bareev and Alexander Beliavsky. After two rounds Vladimir Kramnik, Beliavsky and Bareev share the lead with 1½ points each.

Winning Move, page 44



European allies embarrass Tories on social chapter

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

■ Labour will exploit to the full a draft manifesto for next year's Euro elections which supports the social chapter

THE government is facing embarrassment over the decision of its allies in the European parliament to support a draft manifesto for next June's elections giving enthusiastic support to the social chapter.

Labour leaders intend to exploit to the full a document from the European People's Party, the group of German and other Christian Democrats with whom the British Conservatives normally vote, which calls for the implementation of European economic and monetary union "taking into account the social dimension".

In a passage that the Tory right might regard as heretical it also states that governments must ensure that "the functioning of the market remains subordinate to general welfare and social justice".

The Tory party, anticipating that the European People's Party would come up with such a draft "declaration of principles", had dissociated itself from the group's stance on the single currency and the social chapter in advance.

It reiterated yesterday that British Conservative candidates would fight on their own manifesto, which will set out the Government's well-rehearsed objections to the social chapter.

It also pointed out that the Conservative MEPs do not belong to the European People's Party in the way that British Labour MPs belong to the European Socialist group.

A senior Conservative Party official said that if there was ever a conflict between Tory policy and European People's Party policy, it was Conservative policy that prevailed.

Even so having been embarrassed by Tory exploitation of its decision to sign up to a socialist manifesto that included a 35-hour working week, Labour is determined to hit back over the European People's Party manifesto.

John Smith immediately made it plain that Labour MEPs would not be bound by the 35-hour provision and that it was only an option.

Labour intends to use European People's Party document whenever the Tories challenge it over the policies of the socialist group.

The group calls in its document for the restoration of faith in monetary union. "Every doubt about monetary union will only increase the growth of mistrust and uncertainty or slow down long-term saving and investments."

It is the group's alignment with the social chapter that will provide most ammunition. It says that "economic expansion must not occur at the expense of the social demands and obligations of the European Union."

Sir Norman Fowler, the Conservative Party chairman, will argue that Labour's links to the Socialist group are far tighter than the Conservatives' relatively loose tie-up with the European People's Party.

A committee headed by Dooughas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, is drafting the Tory manifesto. The party leadership hopes to produce a document that will bring together the Euro-sceptics and enthusiasts and avoid a repeat of the Maastricht battle.

Even the pro-European Liberal Democrats may have trouble with the manifesto drawn up by their partners in Europe. Since the Torquay conference they have been discussing ways of toning down the explicit federalism in their party policy.



Fowler: turning away Labour's criticism

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OPEN SUNDAY MOST STORES

DEBENHAMS

Sound of big guns stirs arms enquiry



It is time for the big picture. Lord Justice Scott has spent several months delving into the details of the arms-to-Iraq affair, essentially who misled whom, when. Officials have told how they failed to give ministers adequate briefings and frequently connived with ministers to give false information to Parliament.

It has, as Robin Cook argued yesterday, been "a tale of deceit and cynicism". The government not only approved sales of machine tools and other equipment to Iraq, strongly suspecting or knowing that they would be used in making arms, against their public policy, but they also disguised from MPs a relaxation of previous tight controls.

So far, however, only the Whitehall and intelligence buffs have been interested. The topic is seldom mentioned by MPs.

But this morning Baroness Thatcher appears. It should be great theatre: the relentless Lord Justice Scott and Presiley Baxendale, his counsel, versus the Iron Lady. Her very presence will change the nature of the enquiry, focussing on the broader issues as well as details.

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

As Michael Dynes reported on this page yesterday, there are several specific questions which the enquiry will want answered. These are all variants on the old Watergate question: what did she know and when did she know it? In particular, how much did Lady Thatcher know about sales to Iraq and how aware she was that a parliamentary answer she gave in 1989 about the controls was misleading? Earlier witnesses have referred to her close interest in arms sales and what was going on in Iraq.

The answers all matter, but they are secondary to the broader question of her attitude towards arms sales. She makes no reference to the subject in her memoirs.

Throughout her premiership Lady Thatcher prided herself on personally promoting British exports, including big arms sales. She was active in talks with Middle Eastern regimes where contacts between heads of government are often crucial. She, and Alan Clark, who will give evidence to the enquiry next week, believed that Britain should not be too moralistic on these matters. They believed it was in Britain's interests to sell equipment to Iraq, on both foreign policy and commercial grounds. They did not want Iraq to be defeated by Iran in their long-running war. Moreover, she and others argued that if Britain did not trade with Iraq, then France and Germany would do so without any qualms.

The *realpolitik* school argue that there is inevitably dissembling and hypocrisy in arms sales. Governments have to reconcile their public's dislike of authoritarian and brutal regimes such as Saddam Hussein's with their wish to promote exports and to safeguard jobs. Getting out of the arms trade is not as simple as it sounds in view of the number of jobs in companies supplying defence equipment.

But if that results in the scale of deception disclosed by witnesses to the Scott enquiry, particularly in the botched Matrix Churchill trial, then public trust in government is devalued.

Complete openness is an illusion. Selling to the Middle East is not a clean business. But a succession of officials, including several who are now in senior posts and ambassadors, have shown a patronising contempt towards those they are meant to serve.

Lady Thatcher may have encouraged such behaviour, not necessarily directly, but indirectly because of what officials believed to be her attitude. That is part of the price of a long period of one-party rule. Officials and ministers believe they can bend, and break, rules without any real check. The interests of political expediency become synonymous with the national interest.

PETER RIDDELL

Province's right to stay in UK defended

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major is seeking a strong reaffirmation of Ulster's right to remain in the United Kingdom in the declaration being drawn up by the Irish and British Governments. At the same time he is welcoming the apparent willingness of Albert Reynolds, the Irish Prime Minister, to write into the declaration his readiness to hold a referendum on Ireland's territorial claim to the North.

This was confirmed yesterday as an eight-strong team of senior officials from both governments continued work on the declaration in advance of the meeting between the two leaders in Brussels on Friday or Saturday.

A leading Unionist warned Mr Major against making any further concessions. Peter Robinson, the Democratic Unionist deputy leader, said Unionists were "prepared to go to the wall on this issue".

The East Belfast MP said the Government had determined to seek terms with the IRA and negate democracy to appease Dublin. "Now that the Major Government has openly set itself upon this course I should warn the Prime Minister that in the execution of this policy he will have a knot before him which he will never untie. The prevailing and fixed opinion of the great majority of the community is that they will never accept any further dilution of the Unionist position nor any further strengthening of Dublin interference."

Mr Robinson's criticism followed a speech from a leading Ulster Unionist, John Taylor, in his Strangford constituency, in which he said hundreds of thousands of Ulster Protestants would have to quit the province within a decade of a united Ireland.

Meanwhile Mr Reynolds said the Irish Government was relying on Mr Major to keep Unionist leaders informed about joint London-Dublin efforts. He said he had told Mr Major it was his responsibility because of Unionists' reluctance to take up invitations to meet ministers from Dublin.

Government is accused of suppressing VAT debate

BY ROBERT MORGAN AND ALICE THOMSON



Heseltine: claimed Labour was embarrassed

LABOUR last night accused the Government of suppressing Commons debate on VAT on domestic fuel because it feared that Tory backbenchers would vote it down. But ministers claimed that incompetence by Labour business managers meant that there was to be no debate or vote.

During sharp question time exchanges in the Commons yesterday, John Smith, the Labour leader, said that the House was being deprived of an opportunity to vote to let Tory MPs "off the hook" because many had promised their constituents they they would vote against it. But John Major replied that the House had already voted on the issue several times.

Government whips had expected Labour to table an amendment to the main Budget resolution, as was done by Roy Jenkins in the early 1970s. It failed to do so, and last night MPs had no opportunity to show their feelings on the issue.

As only the compensation package, and not the imposition of the tax, was contained in last week's Budget, MPs are unlikely to have a chance to vote on the issue during the protracted consideration of the Finance Bill, which will begin in the new year. However, Labour will find ways to force a vote.

Government sources described as "blather" Mr Smith's protests in the Commons yesterday, saying that Labour should have tabled an amendment if it had wanted a vote.

As the Budget debate came to its conclusion last night Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, said that Labour could have staged a vote on VAT but was embarrassed by the statement made by Donald Dewar, the shadow Social Security Secretary, in *The People*.

"He had quantified the amount of compensation that was required at 50p a week, whereas the Chancellor of the Exchequer made an announcement of very substantially larger figures. Once again we are seeing Labour having to face up to the reality of voting against what one of its own spokesman said was necessary," he said.

Robin Cook, the shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, said *The People* had printed a retraction of the statement from Mr Dewar and had admitted that there was no such figure put by Mr Dewar. "We will continue to press for a compensation package that measures up to the total cost of VAT on fuel and not only the half of it," he said.

Mr Heseltine went on to announce that he was increasing the department's budget for smaller businesses by £8 million. He also announced two new initiatives worth £26 million "to help industrial competitiveness".

Mr Cook said that the Chancellor had got things terribly wrong. It was the married, mortgaged, motoring, middle classes who would be "clobbered". Traditional middle-income Tory supporters would find themselves facing 3 to 4 per cent tax increases next spring. If interest rates were not cut the Chancellor would find the economy "tumbling down a black hole".

Inflation pushes up defence bill

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Ministry of Defence is paying £30 million too much for equipment each year by failing to adhere to its own guidelines for awarding contracts, a National Audit Office report said yesterday.

In one case, an extra premium of £72 million is expected to be handed over for the purchase of 44 EH101 Merlin helicopters for the Royal Navy, the equivalent of about £7 million a year over a ten-year production cycle. The RAF's £200 million Alarm anti-radar missile could also cost an extra £14 million, and the £853 million Rapier anti-aircraft missile system an additional £6.4 million.

The overspending has arisen because of a system in which defence companies tendering bids are allowed to include a "variation of price" arrangement, as a hedge against inflation, especially for long-running contracts.

Under ministry guidelines, a minimum of 10 per cent of the value of the contract is supposed to be fixed. Yet the audit office discovered that the average "non-variable" element of the 33 high-value contracts investigated was only about 5 per cent. The audit office said that contractors were unwilling to quote a firm price without some leeway for inflation. They always assumed a higher inflation rate than the Treasury.

☐ *Accounting for Inflation in Defence Procurement* (National Audit Office, HMSO. £7.40).

New contender enters Sunday trading lists

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PLANS to end confusion over Sunday shopping were disrupted last night by late changes to the government's attempts to reform trading laws. Only 24 hours before MPs vote on which of three options should form new legislation, a fourth choice was added to the list.

Sir Peter Emery, a senior Tory backbencher, called for a ban on most shops opening before 1pm on Sundays, with unlimited opening allowed after 1pm.

The decision to include the fourth option provoked fears among MPs that tonight's knife-edge vote could collapse without a clear conclusion. "This has just muddied the water. It will create more problems and the debate will be more heated than ever," one senior Labour MP said.

MPs will be given a free vote on each of the options. When one option receives a majority, any remaining choices will fall without a vote. Sir Peter's addition, which is unlikely to command wide support, is expected to be put to the vote before the three options previously included in the bill:

☐ All shops allowed to open on Sundays

☐ All shops allowed to open only on the four Sundays immediately before Christmas. Small shops and some large stores allowed to trade year-round.

☐ Unlimited Sunday opening for small shops. Most larger shops, including supermarkets, limited to six hours' trading.

If none of the options is given a majority, Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, is likely to bring forward new legislation based on the option receiving greatest support.

The main battle is expected to be between the second and third choices, with bookmakers ranking the last option the favourite. Each campaign group claims the upper hand but admits that victory may be secured by only a few votes. Unlimited opening, favoured by John Major and senior ministers, is seen as the rank outsider, although rival campaign groups admit that it has gained support in recent days.

Campaigners will put pressure on MPs to ensure that they vote to defeat options they oppose, rather than abstain. "It is too close to call. Abstentions could be very costly," said a Conservative MP leading the campaign for six hours' supermarket opening.

However, several MPs from Labour and Tory benches are expected to abstain. "A free vote can put MPs in a very difficult position and I think a number will not be in the division lobbies," a Labour front-bench spokesman said.

Leading article, page 17

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: Scotland. Sunday Trading Bill, committee, first day. Motion on independent television takeovers.

Lords (2.30): Debate on the need for respect for other people and the law.

Major dismisses public service 'defeatists'

BY MICHAEL DYNES
WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major yesterday dismissed claims that Britain's public services could be improved only by pouring taxpayers' money into them as "defeatist rubbish". Public services would be improved by attacking excessive costs and low standards, and by ensuring that taxpayers' money is not wasted, he told the Service for the Citizen conference in London.

Describing his citizen's charter initiative as a "new philosophy of the state for the next century", Mr Major said that the government's public service reform programme was already being copied in the United States, Canada, France and Portugal. He insisted that the initiative was not a "have a nice day" approach to public services dressed up as policy. "It is a tough and demanding programme of practical change," he said.

Mr Major told the conference: "For a long time it was assumed that because services were provided by the public sector, not for profit, they would automatically act in the public interest. Experience has taught us that this was mistaken."

The government now has 38 charters covering all the main areas of public service, from British Rail to the Inland Revenue, each of which sets out standards, targets and entitlements. Mr Major said: "This is an ambitious programme. It needs constant pressure to keep up momentum.

"Some people have not yet woken up to the scale of the task in hand. They are rooted in the old thinking that public service is a public service and can never be improved. They are wrong," he added.

Unveiling two new initiatives, Mr Major said that an investigation was under way to find ways of improving information for motorists, including telephone numbers to dial when roadworks cause delays, and new league tables telling parents the number of hours taught in schools each week.

A HOPEFUL CHRISTMAS

To all our kind friends especially the bereft and redundant.
You were left with so little and gave so much for the care of the gravely ill.
Our thanks go out for your richness of spirit and truly Amazing Grace.

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Two monsters from history hold sway in wasteland city


Shumeiko: appealing for votes from the military

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN
IN KALININGRAD

IN A blow to President Yeltsin's administration, only five days before Russian parliamentary elections, coalminers in the Arctic region of Vorkuta have voted to go ahead with an indefinite strike (Anatol Lieven writes). They are demanding regular pay and more state subsidies for their industry. As the election campaign enters its final stage, the reformist parties are becoming increasingly worried that their greatest enemy might be public apathy. Opinion polls differ widely on the likely chances of the different parties.

RUSSIA's westernmost city, Kaliningrad, is dominated by two monsters. Under their baleful gaze, a largely apathetic and bewildered population is preparing to vote on Sunday.

Kaliningrad residents have named a huge concrete tower block that was meant to house the regional council "the Monster". Its completion fell victim to the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Russian economy.

This monster presides over the "city centre", a wasteland of rough grass, stones and crumbling concrete houses. Before 1945, this was the medieval centre of Königsberg, capital of German East Prussia. Partly destroyed in the Second World War, the remains were bulldozed by the Soviet victors who annexed the province to make way for a model Soviet city, which is now going the way of others of its kind.

The German past is the reason why Kaliningrad is still saddled with its second monster, after whom it is named. Mikhail Kalinin, President of the Soviet Union in the 1940s, was a nasty bit of work even by Stalinist standards, who served the Soviet terror machine with ferocious determination. Local officials admit that the name Kaliningrad, and all the other communist names of its streets and squares, is an embarrassment. But what to do? If they are changed, the only logical course would be a return to the old German names. But a return to the area's German history is seen as too much of a political threat.

Since the end of the Soviet Union, Kaliningrad has been cut off from the rest of Russia by Lithuania and Belorussia. With the Kurile Islands at the opposite end of Russia, it is the last Russian booty from the Second World War, and Russian nationalists and

RUSSIAN ELECTION

Soviet loyalists are determined to keep it.

Recent months have seen visits by a whole stream of top Russian politicians, including President Yeltsin, to Kaliningrad, emphasising their patriotism and that the region is an inalienable part of Russia, as well as appealing to the huge armed forces stationed in the territory to give the Government their loyalty.

Vladimir Shumeiko, deputy prime minister and leading reformer, has made an appeal to the military a centrepiece of his election campaign in Kaliningrad. On his visit last week, he opened a block of flats for naval officers. About 15,000 officers from the fleet alone are without proper housing in Kaliningrad. This sort of demonstrative help from the Government seems to have had some effect. Several officers said they would vote for Mr Shumeiko's Russia's Choice, the main reformist political bloc.

Hopes for the economic future of the region are concentrated on the local leadership's plan for a free economic zone. Mr Shumeiko has been winning local support by promising finally to get the zone passed into law in Moscow. A draft decree has now been agreed by the Russian Government, and is due to be signed by President Yeltsin in the next few days.

Much of the local population, however, is sceptical about the zone's prospects and as far as the elections are concerned great confusion reigns. Even the deputy chief of the local election commission admitted that understanding the voting system was not easy: in particular, the lack of information on the ballot forms about the party affiliation of candidates.

This confusion was reflected in the answers of Kaliningraders when asked their own probable voting choices. Alexander Koslov, a retired naval officer, said that he is strongly against Mr Yeltsin and Russia's Choice. But he will vote for the local administration chief, despite the fact that he is running with the backing of Russia's Choice.

Gatt cliffhanger sets stage for EC summit row

FROM GEORGE BROCK
IN BRUSSELS

■ With a Gatt agreement tantalisingly close, there is every indication that EC leaders are about to become embroiled in a classic dispute about money and sanctions

WITH the opening of the hectic final phase of the world trade talks yesterday, the stage was set for an internal row over money and trade sanctions at the weekend European Community summit in Brussels.

United States and Community negotiators flew to Geneva to report to Peter Sutherland, the Director-General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, on the results of almost 24 hours of non-stop talks which failed to resolve every transatlantic dispute but at least made substantial progress. Gatt's Uruguay Round negotiations, which have continued for seven-and-a-half years, now have just seven days left for all the parties to reach an agreement.

Sir Leon Brittan, the EC's chief trade negotiator, said when he arrived in Geneva that he "remained totally convinced that the Uruguay Round can and must be completed in the time allocated to it". His confidence was shared by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, who said a deal was "certainly possible and on balance probable"

Although Sir Leon and Mickey Kantor, the American Trade Representative, could not announce a full package of agreements when their talks ended early yesterday morning, Community and US officials reached understandings on the knotty question of reducing farm subsidies as well as import tariffs.

Success in these areas should allow Mr Sutherland to knit together the final compromises needed for more than 100 countries to agree a new trade treaty by the deadline of December 15.

The French Government was yesterday still claiming that it had not given its assent to any of the provisional agreements reached in Brussels, but it became clear at a meeting of Community foreign ministers that France's arguments are now directed at exacting concessions from its European partners as the price of its final approval. The EC-US talks had made "decisive progress", Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister, said. According to him, last December's Blair House agreement on agriculture has been supplanted by an entirely new deal.

M Juppe wants Germany, Britain, The Netherlands and Luxembourg to lift their objections to "sharper" EC trade weapons which would match America's "Super 301" trade retaliation laws. He is also demanding compensation for the shrinking of farm subsidies of a kind which would hit German farmers hardest.

Germany would thus be forced to ask for compensation from the already tight EC budget. German officials suggest that they may seek an additional £350 million from their partners.

French requests to link settlement of these questions to approval of the final Gatt deal were, however, rejected by all the other ministers. "The French are making the link between them but there is no link," Mr Hurd said.

If a Gatt agreement lays down new rules for world trade, Germany may be ready to compromise with France on enhancing the EC's trade weaponry, perhaps by strengthening the European Commission's powers against artificially cheap "dumping" of imports in Community markets.

But these arguments will unroll throughout next year and are unlikely to be settled at this weekend's summit, which is supposed to be devoted to discussing ways of putting Europe's unemployed back to work.

The Belgian Government, which will chair the summit, is worried that the jobs debate will be overshadowed by a classical row over Community funds.

Simon Jenkins, page 16



Served up by irate farmers at a Paris news conference. Grand Cru du Gatt wine boasts it is "produced anywhere, is rich in pesticides and drunk by anybody".


Peter Sutherland, the Gatt Director-General, left, and Mickey Kantor, the US negotiator, in Geneva yesterday

Legal battle teases trade players

BY GEORGE BROCK, EUROPEAN EDITOR

TRADE negotiations are 90 per cent small print and 10 per cent theatre. If the Gatt talks stagger to a successful conclusion next week, the world's governments will count themselves lucky that the two men who hold Gatt's fate in their hands enjoy legal haggling and revel in play-acting.

When they emerged yesterday from all-night talks on the 13th floor of the biscuit-coloured Breydel building which houses the European Commission, neither Sir Leon Brittan nor his American counterpart, Mickey Kantor, looked at all rumpled.

Mr Kantor's role required him to "break off" the talks, issue a public complaint about the EC's intransigence and put his team of officials on their private plane for the short flight to Gatt's headquarters in Geneva. Sir Leon's part required a meeting with fellow European Commissioners and then with foreign ministers who were given a brisk, but not very detailed, rundown on the considerable progress made overnight. Then he, too, set off for Geneva.

The gap between the EC and US positions was deftly exaggerated by both Sir Leon and Mr Kantor. Sir Leon then relied on the British and German ministers to firmly head off the latest French attempt to sabotage the carefully-scripted progress towards a final deal. Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, and Dr Klaus Kinkel, Germany's Foreugn Ministers, performed on cue: France found no support. The deals which emerged this week were no surprise to France. When the French Foreign Minister, Alain Juppé, and phalanx of his furious-looking officials barrelled throught the glass doors of the Breydel on Tuesday night to protest to Sir Leon, M Juppé was making gestures for the benefit of a French audience. He knew he was unlikely to change the course of events.

Four men have sat at the heart of the talks: Sir Leon and Mr Kantor and their key assistants, Robert Madelin and Rufus Yerxa. Mr Madelin, a French-speaking official from the British Department of Trade on loan to Sir Leon's private staff, and Mr Yerxa, an elegant American trade diplomat of encyclopaedic knowledge, are the "memory men" of their delegations. They have followed Gatt's ups and down for years and sit at their bosses' elbows to supply the figures and redrafted formulas.

But now Sir Leon and Mr Kantor, both lawyers turned politicians, are centre stage as technical talk gives way to the business of coaxing the right sequence of moves from the main players. Both come from Lithuanian émigré families: Mr Kantor's ancestors settled in Tennessee, Sir Leon's in Finchley. Their styles are markedly different: Mr Kantor is laid back and self-deprecating while Sir Leon tends to conduct most conversations as if he is in court. But they agree on the stage-management of Gatt's final phase.

Northern League's co-founder arrested

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS
IN ROME

ALESSANDRO Patelli, the former treasurer of the devolutionist Northern League, was arrested yesterday on charges of breaking party finance laws, a stunning blow for the movement's anti-corruption campaign.

Police took Signor Patelli into custody after Carlo Sama, a former managing director of the Montedison chemical concern, gave evidence during a corruption trial in Milan that he "could not exclude" that bribes were paid to the Northern League. Signor Sama alleged in testimony that some 200 million lire (£80,000) were paid to the league last year for its election campaign. Signor Patelli was treasurer of the league until August last year, when he became organisational secretary.

The charges came as the league and Umberto Bossi, its fiery leader, were struggling to keep up the momentum of the federalist movement, which last weekend failed to win mayoral elections in Venice and Genoa. Signor Bossi's dream of creating a federal republic of the north was jeopardised because he could not find an outlet to the sea and was confined to his native Lombardy, political analysts said.

Signor Bossi appeared unruffled by the charges against his fellow founder of the devolutionist movement. "We always have trusted in the magistrature who must punish the guilty and absolve the innocent. We are not changing our ideas and so we demand that the magistrature act quickly and consequently release those who are innocent, like Patelli," he said.

Also yesterday, magistrates placed Mario Schimberini, a former chairman of Montedison, under house arrest in Rome. Signor Schimberini, 70, is suspected of having made secret payments of some 500 billion lire to accounts in the Caribbean from 1984 to 1986. Magistrates are trying to determine if the money was used to make illicit donations to political parties. The arrest warrant was issued after evidence from another former Montedison chairman.


Bossi: unruffled by the charging of colleague

Tearful Tapie's tragi-comedy reaches climax

BY CHARLES BREMNER

AFTER a theatrical debate that embarrassed the Socialist opposition, the French parliament voted yesterday to lift the immunity of Bernard Tapie, the flamboyant entrepreneur-politician whose spectacular career has been dragged down this year in a tragi-comedy of alleged skulduggery.

An examining judge from northern France sought the measure as a prelude to charging M Tapie, a left-wing member for the Marseilles suburbs, with fraud in the affairs of the Testut company, which he took over with a string of others, including Addidas, in the 1980s. The self-made millionaire, who stepped down as as a Socialist minister last March, is also under investigation into alleged match-fixing involving Olympic Marseille, the European football team he owns.

M Tapie, 50, who rose to celebrity as the most go-getting of showman tycoons in the 1980s, seized on the debate to depict himself as a statesman who has fallen victim to the vengeance of a French establishment which rejects ambitious outsiders from the lower orders. "I will not give up. I will fight on because, like you, I am attached to the most noble of causes — that of the public good," he told parliament, his voice cracking with emotion. "I remain a man still standing, a man who walks, his conscience at peace. Since you have to judge me, go ahead and do it." he concluded. Many members, including those in the Gaullist majority which was expected to vote against M Tapie, were embarrassed at being forced to take a public stand in what they see as an antiquated procedure that mixes politics with justice.

The immunity of members has been lifted only four times in the 35-year history of the Fifth Republic. The first was that of the then senator François Mitterrand, who was accused in 1959 of staging a fake assassination attempt against himself to attract publicity.

Most agonised of all yesterday were the Socialist opposition, which embraced M Tapie when he emerged as a celebrity in the 1980s and has done its best to forget him since his businesses slumped and he ran into trouble with the law. The Socialists voted not to lift his immunity, a decision that amounted to a formality anyway because members are not protected outside parliamentary sessions and the present one ends in two weeks.

For M Tapie, 50, a working class hero in a political élite dominated by the educated classes, the immunity debate was a platform to proclaim his innocence and indulge in the showmanship that has endeared him to the public. As the prosecutors have closed in on him, M Tapie has been depicting himself as a martyr and victim of a vengeful establishment.

"It's a manhunt. Those bastards just want to get me because they can't stand someone who is a success and flaunts it," he said.

His woes multiplied yesterday with news that he had been stopped for speeding and was likely to lose his licence after being timed at 130mph at the wheel of his Renault Safrane on a motorway.

Defence lawyers face Turkish intimidation

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

LAWYERS defending political prisoners in Turkey were being intimidated and prosecuted, especially when they tried to complain about alleged torture of their clients, the Law Society said yesterday.

The lawyers were at great risk the society added as Ankara pursued its undeclared war against Kurdish separatists. They were "being subjected to threats and harassment, at least some of which comes openly from the Turkish authorities", the society said in a report by a delegation that visited Turkey in October. They called on ministers to press Turkey to honour rights commitments.

"Two-thirds of the lawyers we interviewed . . . were being prosecuted for complaining about human rights abuses." Louise Christian, a solicitor with the delegation, said.

Fourteen Turkish lawyers had been arrested since the delegation returned to Britain. "Five of those arrested are people interviewed in our report, who complained that the security police are using torture to extract false confessions naming defence lawyers," Ms Christian said.



Settler threats of retaliation cloud Christopher visit

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN HEBRON AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

■ A funeral procession for two murdered Israelis produced grief and calls for revenge. At the same time the US made a gesture intended to lure Syria closer to Israel

THOUSANDS of grieving Israelis followed the bodies of two murdered Jewish settlers on a cortège across the country yesterday, blaming the government for inadequate protection and vowing to retaliate against Arabs.

In one of the most emotionally charged funerals in recent memory, rabbis, students and right-wing activists turned out in force to pay their last respects to Mordechai Lapid and his son Shalom, who were shot by Palestinian militants at their settlement in Kiryat Arba, near Hebron.

The Arab town was eerily quiet as thousands of extra troops enforced a curfew on the Palestinian population of 90,000. Soldiers searched homes and increased security around the cemetery to prevent vigilante action by settlers.

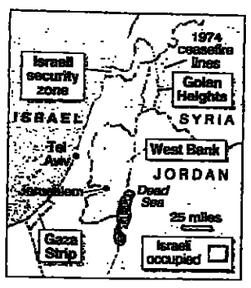
The show of force did not offer much hope, however, that the cycle of violence that has left 37 Palestinians and 14 Israelis dead since the Israel-PLO peace agreement was signed three months ago, was likely to be halted.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, which yesterday claimed responsibility for the Kiryat Arba ambush, said in a leaflet that further attacks were being planned. It warned the army to "prepare more body bags".

The threat was matched by settlers, who are organising their own paramilitary defence force, known as "Hashomer" (the Hebrew for guard). "These deaths are only the beginning of an Arab-Jewish civil war, another Lebanon or Sarajevo," Elyakim Haetzni, a prominent figure in the militant settler council, said.

The atmosphere of near-hysteria in the settlements, and the unease that the violence has generated, seemed to overshadow the modest diplomatic accomplishments of Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State.

Mr Christopher, trying to encourage Syria to make peace with Israel, has told President Assad of the small but symbolic decision to ease sanctions against Damascus by allowing it to receive three second-hand, American-made Boeing 727s from Kuwait. Officials said this was designed to improve US-Syrian relations and demonstrate the economic benefits available to Syria if it pursues a settlement with Israel.



The Administration was also said to be anxious to prevent the European Airbus consortium making further inroads in the Middle East.

Although Mr Christopher arrived in the region at the weekend, determined to restore Israeli-Syrian negotiations, he has appeared visibly disturbed by the spate of tit-for-tat attacks between Arabs and Jews and the harmful effect it is having on the Israel-PLO accord signed in Washington on September 13.

"This spiralling violence simply must come to an end. The enemies of the peace process are trying to snuff out the hope that burned so brightly for peace here," Mr Christopher said after talks with Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister. "The Prime Minister and I are determined the enemies of peace will not succeed in this situation."

However, Mr Christopher's appeal for a return to the euphoria among Israelis and Palestinians in September seemed unlikely to carry much weight, particularly in Hebron, the burial site of the Old Testament patriarchs whose tombs are fought over each day by rival Jewish and Muslim worshippers.

"I am sure it will become very violent," said Orit Struck, 33, a mother of six, who lives in a small Jewish settlement in the centre of Hebron. "People like us who feel that they are not protected have to defend themselves. To do that we must scare the Arabs. If they are frightened, they will leave us alone. If they think we are weak, then they will keep on attacking us."

On a visit to Bonn, Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, urged Germany to increase its financial contribution to the future Palestinian state.



The former 'Lady Macbeth' in a festive light, showing off the White House Christmas decorations to the press

First Lady in red says love is all

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

HILLARY Rodham Clinton has had more images than Elizabeth Taylor has had husbands. She was successively the ruthless Lady Macbeth, the cookie-baking mum and candidate's adoring wife, the aggressively feminist First Lady, the seeker of meaning in American life and the chilly social engineer.

Now, for Christmas, she is studiously presenting herself in the most startling light of all — soft and sentimental.

Annie Leibovitz took warm and fuzzy photographs of her for the latest *Vogue* and *Family Circle* photographed her hanging a Christmas angel on a blue spruce. "We really love Christmas," she is said to have gushed. Then there was her Thanksgiving interview with *The Washington Post* in which she promised more White House fun, more partying and less policy in the holiday season. Last week, too, she lit the National Christmas Tree, and now she has opened the White House to show off its Christmas finery.

Dressed in bright red and wearing a stocking-shaped brooch, the First Lady took selected reporters on a guided tour of the 22 Christmas trees and 7,500 ornaments she has solicited from American craftsmen. These take a multitude of forms from a Clinton Jack-in-the-box with saxophone to an angelic president and guardian angel Hillary. The presidential pastry chef created a giant gingerbread White House covererd in miniature cats — First Cat Socks depicted as a secret service agent or playing the saxaphone.

"What's important about Christmas is the love you have and how you share that," said Mrs Clinton, who will return to full-time politics and ferocious battles over health care the moment the holiday is over.

Cancer woman 'paid her killer'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

A WOMAN with breast cancer paid an 18-year-old to kill her and persuaded him to try again when his first attempt failed, police in Illinois said. The woman, Susan Potempa, 50, was found dead in her family home at Summit, Illinois, on November 26. She had been strangled and beaten with a blunt instrument.

The police have arrested Reginald Williams, unemployed, alleging that he was paid $2,100 (£1,400) by Potempa to kill her. "She wanted to end her life because she was ill," Jack O'Malley, the State Attorney, said.

Police officers say Mr Williams killed Potempa at her request during the Thanksgiving weekend when her husband and son were away at a football game in Detroit. They allege he first tried to strangle her, but left her unconscious and alive.

Potempa, the police claim, recovered consciousness and climbed into her car to try to find her assailant. After asking various people where he was, she discovered him eating a hamburger at a local diner and urged him to return to her house and try again, the police say.

In the second attack Potempa was struck on the head with a heavy object, probably an electric drill, according to Mr O'Malley. Her body was discovered by her husband in the garage.

The dead woman had left notes in the house indicating that she had committed suicide, but a post-mortem examination proved she had been killed. Mr Williams attracted the attention of police after he bought a new car and stereo equipment for cash. They persuaded a friend of his to wear a hidden microphone and he was arrested last Saturday after police allegedly heard him describe the killing of Potempa and speak of the money he was paid.

The authorities believe the dead woman's family knew nothing about the alleged suicide-murder plot and say they have no idea how she came into contact with Mr Williams, who was on parole after being convicted of burglary.

Chinese still talk business

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

DIPLOMATS from Britain and China discussed the practical details of the handover of Hong Kong to China yesterday, even though top-level negotiations between the two countries were plunged into crisis last week.

Relations froze when Chris Patten, Governor of Hong Kong, announced he was sending a Bill for limited democratic reform to the Hong Kong legislature and China's official media said the move killed any chance of a negotiated settlement of the changeover in 1997.

However, yesterday's lower-level contacts within the Joint Liaison Group were said to be "cordial and businesslike" by the British, while Ma Yuzhen, China's ambassador to London, said: "We do not want to see differences over Hong Kong affect our trade relations."

Mr Ma spoke as both sides began a regular three-day meeting in London of the liaison group. "Problems over the future of the colony are outside the control of business groups," Mr Ma said as he detailed road, rail, air and sea projects planned by China.

The Government wants to continue talks with Peking, but so far there has been no response from the Chinese.

☐ **Dissenting voice:** Wei Jingsheng, a leading dissident who served 15 years in jail for attacking Deng Xiaoping, has disclosed that he wrote from prison to the Chinese leader condemning Peking's rule in Tibet. Mr Wei told Mr Deng that "the director of this tragedy is none other than you".

Mr Wei's letter, in October last year, was a detailed refutation of Peking's contention that Tibet has always been a part of China, and he warned Mr Deng that his advisers were using "distortions to deceive you". Mr Wei was released last spring.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pope is recovering from fall

Rome: Doctors allowed the Pope to take his right arm out of a sling after X-rays showed his injured shoulder was healing, the Vatican said yesterday. The Pope, 73, has begun physiotherapy.

The Pope partly fractured his shoulder joint last month when he fell down three steps during a public audience. He was forced to reduce his public appearances immediately after the accident but has now resumed an almost normal schedule. *(Reuter)*

Palermo blast

Rome: A huge explosion devastated the centre of Palermo, raising fears of a Mafia bomb attack, but the interior ministry pointed to a gas leak as the most likely cause. One person was slightly hurt. Two buildings, including the fire brigade headquarters, were badly damaged. *(Reuter)*

Hostage freed

Jolo, Philippines: Charles Walton, an American bible translator kidnapped on November 14 by Muslim guerrillas demanding the withdrawal of Christian missionaries, was freed here. He was tired but said he had not been harmed. *(Reuter)*

Prison scientist

Hobart: Rory Thompson, an Australian scientist declared insane after killing his wife, has won a patent from his prison cell for a way to see three-dimensional colour television. *(Reuter)*

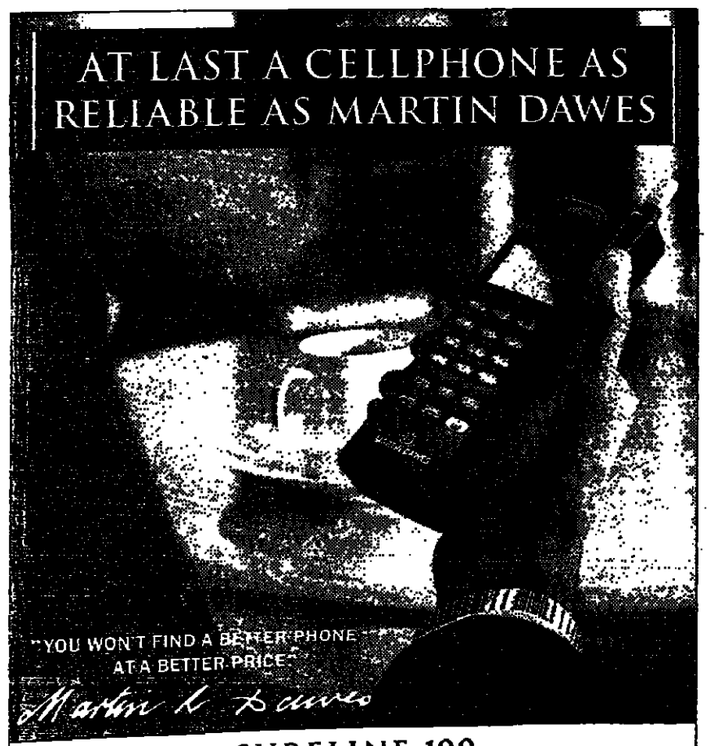
Boys released

Rio de Janeiro: Two sons of a French businessman, aged eight and ten, who were kidnapped here on their way to school last week, returned home after being freed by their four captors. *(Reuter)*

Drink driving

Rabat: Two Spaniards drove a car in Spain's African enclave of Ceuta for three-quarters of a mile using about three gallons of gin for fuel and 44lb of ripe bananas as lubricating oil. *(Reuter)*

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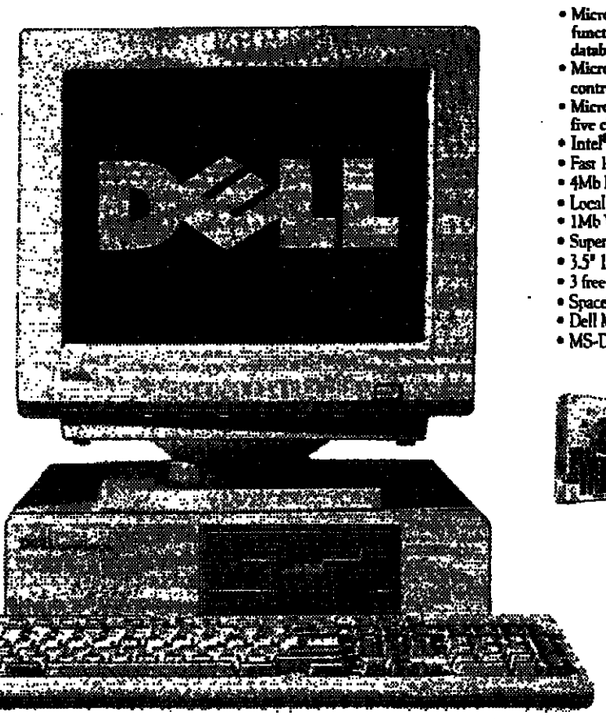
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Hubble successes leave earthlings starry-eyed

BY NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE mission to repair the Hubble space telescope is surpassing all the expectations of Nasa and the European Space Agency. Each day sees a new piece of equipment almost flawlessly installed by Endeavour's seven-person crew.

Early yesterday Story Musgrave and Jeffrey Hoffman removed a camera the size of a baby grand piano and replaced it with an upgraded version containing a coin-sized mirror.

The improved wide field planetary camera, which cost approximately $100 million (£67.5 million), will give astronomers near but panoramic views of the heavens. The additional mirror will help focus light on the camera by compensating for the telescope's flawed, primary mirror.

Mission control told the astronauts: "Every day it is becoming more and more like 'can you top this?'"

After the new camera was installed, Endeavour's 50 ft robot arm carried the two astronauts to the top of the four-storey telescope where they replaced two faulty magnetometers, devices that sense the Earth's magnetic field to help keep the Hubble telescope pointing towards the stars.

The successful progression of the 11-day mission, which yesterday reached the halfway stage, appears to be making the crew more relaxed.

"Do not forget Sox, I'm afraid of heights," quipped Dr Musgrave to Kenneth Bowersox, who was operating the robot arm from the shuttle cockpit.

Five out of the mission's seven main goals have now been achieved by the astronauts, including replacing faulty arrays, gyroscopes, fuses and electrical units. The main remaining goals are to install the key corrective optics, and one of two electronic drives for the solar arrays.

Three out of five secondary goals, including replacing some fuse plugs and other electrical devices, have also been met. All that remains in this category is installing a new processor for Hubble's computer, and a switch for a device called the ultraviolet light detector.

Today Kathryn Thornton and Tom Akers, her fellow space walker, will leave Endeavour's air lock in the early hours of the morning for possibly the most crucial part of the mission. They are scheduled to slide out from the telescope's base a device called the high speed photometer and replace it with Costar, a £50 million telephone-kiosk sized unit.

Costar, built by Ball Aerospace of Boulder, Colorado, has tiny motorised mirrors which will refocus the light from Hubble's faulty main mirror onto several key instruments. Installing Costar is the main goal of the space agencies, and if this is achieved it will mean that Nasa can pronounce the Endeavour mission a complete success.

The final celebrations will come two months from now, after ground controllers have conducted fine-tuning of instruments using radio commands.

Peking: Planes and ships are forbidden from travelling directly between China and Taiwan, but experts say 6,000 unidentified flying objects have made the trip, the Xinhua news agency said. The first China-Taiwan UFO symposium finished in Peking with researchers concluding that UFO sightings deserved more scientific study. Xinhua said the latest sighting was on August 7, when two hat-like objects were reportedly seen over Taipei airport for 15 minutes. *(Reuter)*



Dr Story Musgrave, who made his first shuttle space walk ten years ago, dreams of a space ride with unknown beings

Doctor in space waits for call from alien visitor

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

WHILE Dr Story Musgrave was replacing the wide-field planetary camera, half an eye was cocked on the horizon in case a disc-shaped craft hoved into view. The veteran astronaut firmly believes in aliens and tries to contact them on each mission.

"I've got nothing to lose. While I'm circling around out there I try whatever ways I can to get them to come down here and get me," said Dr Musgrave, 58, a surgeon who lists his hobbies as parachuting, scuba diving and literary criticism.

"You know, I'm a realist. The probabilities are incredibly slim. But the greatest thing that I could do is to have something come down out from there and go take a space ride with them," said Dr Musgrave, who dropped out of school in 1953 to join the Marines.

The astronaut, who joined Nasa in 1967 and made his first shuttle space walk ten years ago, admitted to being terrified during the 17,000 mph lift-off into orbit. "You don't get a nice sound in there when it's 137 decibels. You shake, rattle and roll and I'm scared to death," he said during a recent trip to British Aerospace in Bristol to study the Hubble replacement solar arrays.

To distract him, Dr Musgrave wears a little mirror on his wrist which, he admitted, breaks Nasa rules. It allows him to look out of the shuttle's back window and see the flames pouring from the craft's booster rockets. "It's incredible. You pick up the whole perimeter of the launch pad . . . and it's like a huge flashbulb going off," Dr Musgrave said.

He has flown on more shuttle missions than anyone else, but said that the pressures of the Hubble repair have been huge. Nevertheless, Dr Musgrave believed his surgical training had prepared him for the delicate manoeuvres.

America admits to 252 secret nuclear tests

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

AS PART of the biggest declassification of secret Cold War military documents yet, the Clinton Administration admitted yesterday that America carried out 252 secret nuclear tests over a period of 30 years at its test site in Nevada and in the Pacific Ocean.

The number of secret tests is much larger than defence experts had previously estimated, and it accounts for about one fifth of the total nuclear tests undertaken. Of the secret explosions, 204 took place at the official test site in Nevada and the remainder in the Pacific. The last test took place in 1990.

The news was made public by Hazel O'Leary, the Energy Secretary, who said that the release of the test data was the start of a process to release hundreds of classified documents about America's nuclear weapons programme.

Among the most controversial documents expected to be released at some stage are papers that include information on experiments on humans who were exposed to plutonium radiation more than 40 years ago.

"We are declassifying the largest amount of information in the history of the Department of Energy", Ms O'Leary told a news conference. She promised that her department would in future be more forthcoming on meeting requests under the Freedom of Information Act, which allows Americans access to non-classified government documents.

The process had been discouraged by the previous Administration, whose policy it had been to release documents only after extensive, and frequently expensive, legal procedures.

Ms O'Leary said that the new policy was part of a process of "overhauling our Cold War policies". Her announcement came a day after President Clinton said he would consider a plan to de-target America's nuclear missiles away from installations in Russia and towards the oceans, in what amounts to yet another symbol of increasing détente in military relations between America and Russia.

Ms O'Leary said that the secret tests had been intended to mislead the Soviet Union about the nature and extent of America's nuclear weapons programme.

Tiny riot in paradise hardly hurts 18

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THERE is trouble in paradise. St Christopher and St Nevis, idyllic Caribbean islands that are the stuff of tourist dreams, are under a state of emergency after rioting and disturbances provoked by recent general election results.

Imposed for three weeks by government decree last Thursday, the state of emergency is causing concern in Britain, which still has close relations with its former colony, better known as St Kitts. The Foreign Office, however, sees no reason for people to cancel holiday plans.



The trouble began after the general election at the end of last month left an inconclusive result. The People's Action Movement, the ruling party, won four seats in the tiny legislature. So did the main opposition Labour Party. The outgoing government of Dr Kennedy Simmonds, however, was able to count on the vote of the one member elected for the Nevis Reformation Party, whereas Labour could not enlist the support of the other two independents.

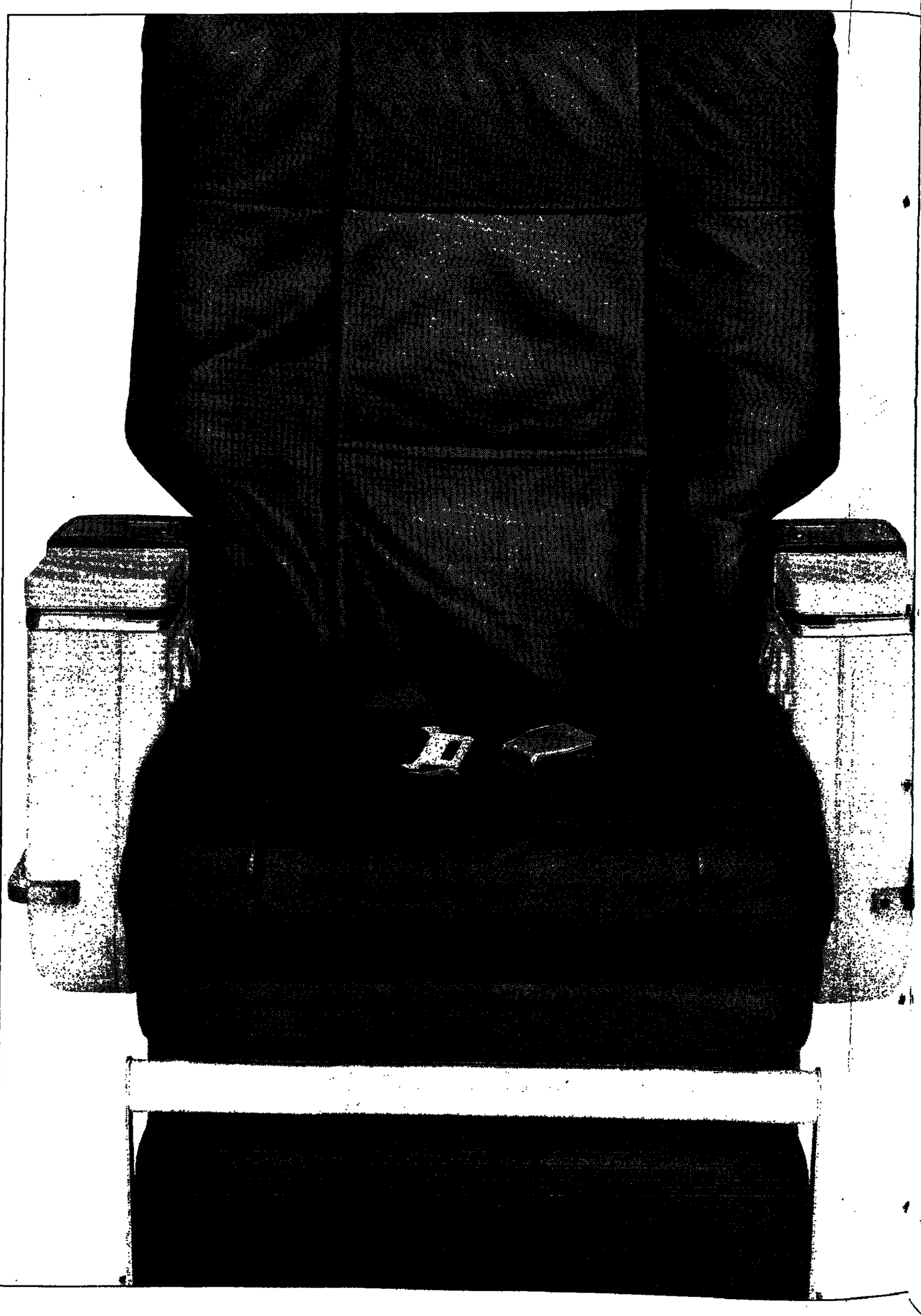
In the circumstances, Sir Clement Arrindell, the Governor, invited Dr Simmonds to continue in power. Labour supporters were dismayed because their party polled 2,000 more votes than the government. There were protests in Basseterre, the capital, which turned into scuffles. The government became alarmed, and a curfew was imposed.

The colony appealed to Barbados, the nearest big power, with which it is linked in a regional security agreement, for help in keeping order because its police were becoming exhausted. In the end, Barbadian sources report, help was not needed because the stone-throwing stopped in Basseterre.

The damage was hardly catastrophic. Some reports say 18 people received minor cuts and bruises; others say the worst that happened was a stone breaking the windscreen of a police car.

These are none the less serious incidents for an island group that still remembers the international excitement when Anguilla, bundled off into semi-independence with two neighbouring islands in 1967, raised the flag of revolt in 1969 and insisted on remaining a British colony. It took several British bobbies, some fine speeches at the United Nations and the bemused involvement of the world before Anguilla was allowed to go its own way.

To end the stalemate, Dr Simmonds has now decided to call new elections, which will probably be held in the next six months. Until then, and to see the two islands through the peak tourist season, an interim government may be set up drawing on the support of all the local politicians. Already the curfew has been reduced by an hour, now keeping people indoors from 9pm to 5am. Nobody expects anything more serious to upset the insular paradise.



هكذا من الأصل

Blacks join ruling council amid white protest in Pretoria

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN CAPE TOWN

A new all-race executive has come into being in South Africa. President De Klerk denied, however, that this symbolic moment heralded the end of white power

NEARLY 350 years of white rule officially began to end here yesterday when blacks for the first time achieved a say in executive decisions.

In the period leading to fully democratic government, a Transitional Executive Council (TEC) has come into being. The first action of its joint chairmen was to sign a letter to the International Monetary Fund asking for a loan of $850 million (£565 million).

White extremists who believe the council represents a capitulation to black rule marked the day by seizing a fort used as a museum on the site of the monument to the Voortrekkers outside Pretoria. A dozen or so members of the Pretoria Boer Commando were armed with rifles, pistols and shotguns. They announced that they would stay until December 16, the Day of the Vow, perhaps the most significant anniversary in Afrikaner history.

The army yesterday sent a company of troops to take up position around the hill. Negotiations were later in progress.

Back in in Cape Town, Cyril Ramaphosa, the secretary-general of the African National Congress, warned the government that it must not treat the council as a "toy telephone". He was in effect serving notice on the government that the black members of the council intend to push their authority to the limit.

President de Klerk later poured cold water on the idea that the council could act as an alternative government and denied that it marked the end of white rule. "Today is but another milestone on a long road," he said at his office in welcoming Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, the Foreign Office Minister.

"It is an important day in the sense that, for the election process, it is fundamentally important that we get multi-party involvement in ensuring free and fair elections," he said. "But the government has not stopped governing and the TEC is not the new government of South Africa."

He denied that the government wanted to treat the council as a "toy telephone", but added that if Mr Ramaphosa wanted to build it "into an elephant and a tiger" he would do the country a disservice.

The council has in fact been established to "level the playing field", before next year's general election.



Cyril Ramaphosa, left, the ANC's representative on the Transitional Executive Council, being greeted by a fellow member at its first meeting in Cape Town yesterday as Colin Eglin of the Democratic Party looks on

Africans lose a durable leader

BY SAM KILEY AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

FELIX Houphouët-Boigny, Africa's longest-serving president, died yesterday in his home town, leaving a power vacuum that many fear may lead to ethnic violence in the Ivory Coast.

United Nations workers and expatriates have been stocking up on food and water and practising evacuation drills in anticipation of Mr Houphouët-Boigny's death. He had fought a long battle with prostate cancer.

Mr Houphouët-Boigny was thought to be aged 88, but his actual birthdate was unknown. He had spent 50 years at the head of the former French colony's politics and 33 years as president.

Ivory Coast has been held up as a model of economic success and stability in Africa, but Mr Houphouët-Boigny's refusal to name a successor raises the possibility of strife between ethnic rivals squabbling over the succession.

Alassane Outtara, the Prime Minister, wept as he announced the president's death in a television address. "In these terrible hours for the country, we feel for the sorrows of his family and we cry, all of us, with them, for our great, lost leader," he said.

Mr Houphouët-Boigny is likely to be buried in the Basilica of Our Lady of Peace, built at crippling cost to the country, at Yamoussoukro, his birthplace.

Henri Konan-Bedie, the parliamentary Speaker, is considered favourite to succeed to the presidency. His biggest challenge comes from Mr Outtara.

Obituary, page 19



Houphouët-Boigny: death leaves a power vacuum

Tinseltown epic ends in $2m award

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

THERE comes a moment in the life of most ageing Hollywood actresses when the party invitations stop arriving, the leading roles evaporate and even the plastic surgeons begin running out of options. At this moment there is only one surefire way to resurrect dwindling celebrity status: let the lawyers take over in multi-million-dollar law suits.

The long legal cat-fight between Zsa Zsa Gabor and Elke Sommer, one of the most public brawls ever witnessed in Hollywood, reached a finale this week. The Santa Monica supreme court was packed and all eyes were on the two leading ladies in this messy drama.

On Monday, a California jury ordered Ms Gabor and her husband, Frederick von Anhalt, to pay $2 million (£1.3 million) in libel damages for wickedly describing Ms Sommer, 53, as a broke, balding, washed-up bar-fly. Specifically, the couple had told a German magazine and newspapers that Ms Sommer "looked like a 100-year-old grandmother", "had no hair on her head", "went to the sleaziest bars" and was now so far over the hill she "had to sell her sweaters for money".

Even by Tinseltown standards their comments were rather rude. The jury was due to meet again yesterday to decide on punitive damages, which could force Ms Gabor to sell her various properties and will no doubt lead to a tear-jerking sequel to the present epic, just part of a nine-year feud between the actresses.

Banda back at the helm

Nairobi: Two months after undergoing surgery to drain water on his brain, President Banda of Malawi, who is believed to be in his mid-90s, was pronounced fit to return to work as head of state yesterday after a week of fighting between the army and his private vigilantes, the Young Pioneers (Sam Kiley writes).

The presidential council that has run Malawi while Dr Banda was ill has been dissolved.

Bhuttos tussle for party dominance

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

THE Bhutto family is providing a soap opera of intrigues, machinations and sibling hatreds seven weeks after Benazir Bhutto was elected Prime Minister of Pakistan. Their power battle involves mother, son and daughter.

Miss Bhutto, 40, on Sunday overthrew her mother as co-chairman of the Pakistan People's Party, a family-dominated vehicle for their immense ambitions. The Bhuttos may not be the biggest or richest feudal landlords in Pakistan, but political power makes them the most important of the aristocratic clans.



Begum Bhutto: ousted by her daughter

Begum Nusrat Bhutto, 59, a formidable character, will not take her humiliation lightly. She responded by demanding the right to be lifetime chairman of the party founded by her late husband, Zulfikar Ali. "No-one can remove me," she said. "I was nominated for life by my husband. I will not allow anybody to bypass his decision."

A brother-sister feud has simmered for years. Begum Bhutto forced it into the open by supporting the return of her son, Murtaza, 43, after 16 years in exile. He was arrested on arrival at Karachi last month on terrorist charges stemming from activities against the martial law regime that hanged his father. He is in jail awaiting trial.

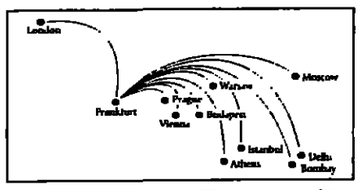
During the October general election campaign the begum campaigned against PPP candidates in favour of her son, who ran against them from his base abroad. In speeches broadcast from a telephone link, Mr Bhutto denounced the way his sister ran the party. He was defeated in the National Assembly seats he contested, but won a seat in the provincial assembly of Sindh, the Bhuttos' heartland. Soon afterwards he headed home. Miss Bhutto suspects her mother wants him to lead the party.

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The royal story that will not go away. **Alan Hamilton** on a secret bid to reconcile the warring couple





Portraits of two loveless marriages. A videotape of Madeleine Carroll with Ronald Colman (left) as the tragic Princess Flavia was sent to the Princess of Wales as a role model to encourage a reconciliation. The plan did not work

Plots and the Princess



Princess Diana and the Prisoner of Zenda: a bid for Royal reconciliation

Friends who telephone the Princess of Wales, it is said, are enjoined not to address her down the wires as "Diana". Since the publication of the Squidgygate tapes last year, she has harboured the fear that someone somewhere with a garage full of gadgetry might be listening in.

Instead, personal callers address her by a variety of codenames, one of which — doubtless now changed to maintain security — was "Flavia", after the tragic Princess in Anthony Hope's 1894 novel *The Prisoner of Zenda*, who was treated with indifference and disdain by her husband but who dutifully endured her loveless marriage for the greater good of Ruritania.

It has emerged that friends of the Princess hatched a Ruritanian plot in the hope of steering her life in a happier direction, but that it was as romantic and hopeless as the plot of the novel. According to Sir David English, editor in chief of Associated Newspapers, writing in his *The Mail on Sunday*, the principal players were himself, Lord Palumbo, the outgoing chairman of the Arts Council whose wife Hayat inhabits the Princess's inner circle, and Sir Gordon Reece, the political adviser, another friend and supporter. They referred to themselves as the Zenda group, and are said to have given the Princess a video of the 1937 Ronald Colman classic film version of the Hope novel.

Following discreet contacts with the Palace and government ministers, the Zenda group drew up a plan whereby, gradually and without so much as a sniff of publicity, the Prince and Princess would start to be seen together, first at public functions, then perhaps in the Queen's presence, and eventually on a foreign visit. The culmination would be a joint weekend or half-term holiday with their sons.

The Prince would return to live in Kensington Palace on one or two days a week, but senior media figures would be briefed that the couple were sharing neither bed nor quarters, and were still leading separate lives. But, the briefing would say, they had a mature appreciation of their royal duties and were pulling together for family and country. The Princess, anxious for some kind of reconciliation, was enthusiastic.

The plan was fated from the start by the opposition of the Prince who, it is claimed, wished no part in what he saw as a sham. The Princess, frustrated and angry, became ever more convinced that the whole Palace machine — with the notable exceptions of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh — was plotting against her. Part of the plot was said to be the transfer of her favourite detective, Inspector Ken Wharfe, to other duties, but in that case she was a victim merely of a Metropolitan Police ruling which rotates personal protection officers every four years.

Her supporters blamed her selfish and intransigent husband; her opponents rather saw her as the victim of her own paranoia. But any suggestion of a plot by senior courtiers is improbable; their dedicated aim in life is to hold the royal show together, and to banish the Princess is to turn her into a loose cannon. Whatever, they wonder, will she do next?

Yet with her or without her, their attempts to rebuild the image of the Prince of Wales as a worthy future king sometimes resemble pushing a boulder uphill. Selling the Prince as an overseas trade ambassador, or global environmentalist, or concerned worker for the underprivileged, come close to being blown out of the water when (in a distant echo of the Bishop of Bradford, Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson) the Archdeacon of York, writing in *The Times* today, questions whether the Prince's private life makes him suitable for kingship and the supreme governorship of the Church of England.

The *Mail* group is implicated yet further. Two stories which have appeared in the rival *Sun* this week — one suggesting that the Queen wished the succession to pass directly to Prince William and another claiming that Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, was opposed to Charles's accession — both had their origins in an informal breakfast Dr Carey had with senior *Mail* executives last July. On that occasion, according to those present, Dr Carey was merely airing possibilities, and to suggest that he was conveying his own views is a gross distortion of the truth.

The Prince was reportedly furious at the way in which the Princess announced her withdrawal from public life on Friday, in a manner calculated to attract the maximum attention and sympathy. Since last year's separation he had been working hard to present his best side, and he entertained some hope that his personal life might fade from public view.

At the time of the formal separation last year, there was a belief in the Palace that coming clean on a failed marriage would lance the boil of fevered speculation, and that media interest in their joint private lives would decline. Some hope. The Princess has continued to enjoy as high a profile as ever, and until her dramatic announcement last week appeared to do little to discourage it. Snatched photographs in a gym notwithstanding, to plead intolerable media intrusion as the sole reason for bowing out seems slightly disingenuous.

But the Prince's troubles are not over yet. The major shot in his public relations armoury is a television film and accompanying book being prepared by Jonathan Dimbleby, the broadcaster, to mark the 25th anniversary of the Prince's investiture at Caernarfon in 1969.

Three weeks before it is shown, Sidgwick and Jackson plan to publish a book by the Princess's former nanny, Mary Clarke, who now lives in Portugal, which is said to contain many letters from the Princess detailing the misery of her marriage. It is unlikely to take the story much further than Andrew Morton's biography, *Diana: Her True Story*, but it will drag the whole sad tale before the public consciousness again.

Such was the success of *The Prisoner of Zenda* that Hope was obliged to write an equally popular sequel, in which Princess Flavia, dutiful to the last, became queen to a distant and loveless king. With reconciliation between the Prince and Princess of Wales seemingly entirely off the menu, life currently shows little hope of imitating art.

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- You can take your holiday(s) at any time to the end of December 1994, and you can choose any number of holidays, providing you have collected ten tokens per holiday.
- The 20 per cent discount will apply to any holiday featured with no restriction on price.
- When you have chosen your holiday, complete the relevant tour operator's booking form and send it with the required deposit and ten *Times* tokens to: *The Times* Travel Offer, Cox & Kings Travel, St James Court, Buckingham Gate, London, SW1E 6AF. Bookings must be received by February 20, 1994.
- The offer is subject to the terms and conditions published in *The Times* on November 18.

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TOKEN No 18

This is your eighteenth token. Save it. Every day until December 11 we will print one. You need collect only ten

GO PLACES

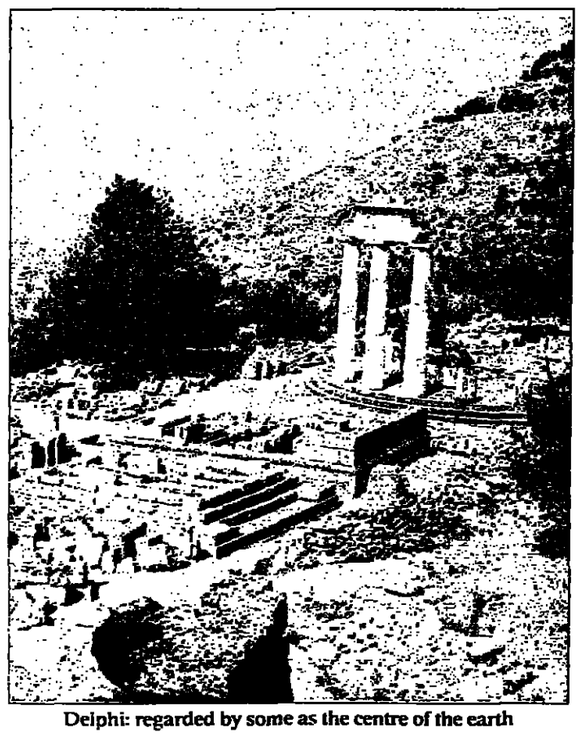
TOKEN

OPERATORS

TO get a brochure from any of the operators below, phone the Brochure Hotline, or write to: *The Times* Brochure Service, PO Box 9, Dunoon, Scotland, PA23 8PQ, quote ref 18. You may request as many brochures as you need.

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Delphi: regarded by some as the centre of the earth

Cruises for the curious

Venice is miraculous at any time. It is miraculous even, or perhaps especially, after an early morning departure from Gatwick nursing a mammoth hangover from an all-night party.

It was not the best way to begin a cruise, particularly a Swan Hellenic one which is far removed from a knees-up job with shipboard activities centred upon deck games and discos. This was to be an educational experience, with a full complement of historians, archaeologists and other academics to tell us about the places we would visit and what might have happened there centuries earlier. From Troy to Thucidides, from the Crusades to Gallipoli, it was to be a 14-day history lesson.

Having never been on a cruise before, I was a little apprehensive. However it soon became clear that nothing was compulsory. Instead of attending shipboard lectures, you could have them relayed to your cabin or ignore them altogether — although they were so good I seldom did that.

It was also a relief to recognise that, for the most part, my fellow passengers were good eggs, humorous and gregarious, interesting people with an interest in what they were seeing but not prepared to let culture interfere with the serious business of wining, dining, sunbathing and swimming.

Enjoy a little culture and some serious wining, dining and relaxation

There were daily ports of call, sometimes more than one, at which most of us went ashore not out of a sense of duty but because there was invariably something worth seeing and a guide worth following.

From Venice we sailed down the Adriatic to Rimini and Ravenna, along the Dalmatian coast and past Albania, then still a closed country, to Corfu. From there it was through the Corinth Canal, after an overland visit to Delphi, on to Crete and Rhodes, and northwards up the Turkish coast, with memorable stopovers at Troy and Ephesus.

More recent reminders of man's appetite for war were evoked as we moved through the Dardanelles and across the Sea of Marmara to the great dusty mosques of Istanbul. About turn and back across the Aegean, through clusters of islands to Athens, the penultimate day of the voyage spent amid the haunted ruins of Delos, the birthplace of Apollo.

In a fortnight we could hardly have hoped to see and learn more, interspersed with plenty of excellent browsing and sluicing, and recovering from our sightseeing exertions on beautiful, secluded beaches. But perhaps my most plangent memory is of an evening in Dubrovnik which, even under its then communist rulers, was bright, lively and filled with good shops and restaurants.

After an excellent meal we were accosted by a complete stranger who asked us where we came from. On learning that we were English, he insisted that we come back to his house where he plied us with drink and protested, to an almost embarrassing degree, his love and admiration for Britain. As we sat on his balcony, looking down through the trees on the lovely old city, it would have been utterly impossible to foresee the murderous nightmare that was to overtake his country.

JOHN YOUNG

TODAY'S FEATURED OPERATOR: SWAN HELLENIC

The following selection of cruises are operated by Swan Hellenic, who combine carefree travel with an opportunity to discover and learn more about the world's heritage. All cruises are accompanied by guest lecturers and all cruises are offered at a remarkable price, with flights, accommodation, meals, excursions and ups included in your fare.

The following Mediterranean cruises are on board Orpheus, a small comfortable ship with accommodation for only 250 passengers.

THE AGE OF CIVILISATION: Fly to Athens, then cruise through Greece and Turkey; fly back from Venice (15 days).
Departs 15 June 1994, from £1264 (down from £1580). **Save from £316**

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Departs 13 July 1994, from £1224 (down from £1530). **Save from £306**

AEGEAN STEPPING STONES (I): A one-week cruise visiting some of the prettiest islands in the Greek Aegean.
Departs 24 August 1994, from £772 (down from £965). **Save from £193**

AEGEAN STEPPING STONES II: A second one-week summer cruise which combines opportunities for swimming in the clear waters of the Aegean with visits to historical sites.
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ANCIENT HOLY LANDS: A late autumn cruise to the warm waters of the Red Sea (16 days) including visits to Jordan, Egypt and Israel.
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SWAN HELLENIC

The following Rhine-Mosel cruises are on board Rembrandt van Rijn, with accommodation for just 90 passengers

RHINE-MOSEL CRUISE: This 10-day cruise is between Arnhem in Holland and Basel in Switzerland and includes flights London-Amsterdam and Zurich-London.
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UPPER EGYPT CRUISE: A 15-day cruise of Upper Egypt, combining visits with cruising on the timeless river.
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SHORT CRUISES BETWEEN LUXOR AND ASWAN: A 9-day cruise in Upper Egypt. Highlights include Luxor, Aswan for Philae, Cairo for the Pyramids and Sphinx and the Cairo Museum.
Departs 12 December, 28 December 1994, from £1036 (down from £1295). **Save from £259**

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q: How do I book my holiday?
A: All communication and booking forms must be sent to *The Times* Travel Offer, Cox & Kings, St James Court, 45 Buckingham Gate, London, SW1E 6AF.

Q: How do I pay for my holiday(s)?
A: You must pay the relevant tour operator's deposit at the time of booking with their signed booking form. You must pay the balance due for your holiday(s) 10 weeks prior to departure. Cox & Kings will forward the relevant tour operator's invoice to you within three weeks of receiving your booking form, deposit and tokens. Your invoice will be for the balance of your holiday cost less the discount and less the deposit paid. If you wish to pay by credit card a surcharge of 1.5 per cent will be levied.

Q: Is it possible to book my holiday(s) before I collect all ten tokens?
A: You must collect all ten tokens and fill in the relevant operator's booking form with the deposit. Only then will your holiday(s) be confirmed.

Q: What happens if the holiday(s) of my choice is sold out?
A: Cox & Kings will inform you as soon as this happens and you may select an alternative date or destination or your deposit will be returned.

Q: When can I book the holiday(s)?
A: Bookings can be made when you have your ten tokens and relevant booking form. You must book your holiday(s) by February 20, 1994.

Q: To what does the discount apply?
A: It applies to the specific departure date and tour offered by the operator. Any number of people booking together on one booking form, together with ten tokens attached, can take part in the offer. It excludes any other supplements, including single room supplements, any other holiday, insurance, car hire (except where car hire is part of the specific tour offered by the operator), special excursions, amendments, surcharges, visas or cancellation charges.

Q: What happens if I miss or lose a token?
A: We will be publishing a total of 21 tokens and backdated copies will be accepted (though photocopies will not be accepted). So you should be able to catch up.

Q: Do I have to take any specific insurance?
A: No, you may arrange your own insurance, but you must ensure that you are fully covered for the holiday booked and forward details of the policy arranged when mailing your booking form.

Q: Are the operators bonded?
A: Yes, all the operators featured in this offer are bonded and have complied with the financial bonding requirements of the Civil Aviation Authority or the Passenger Shipping Association. This means that you will be repatriated/refunded in the unlikely event of the operators insolvency.

TOKEN

مكبرة من الأصل

Last laugh for Les at the abbey

Les Dawson, comic, is to join the great and the good remembered in a service at Westminster Abbey, **James Bredin** writes

It is announced in *The Times* today that there will be a memorial service at Westminster Abbey for Les Dawson, comedian, who died in June.

Abbey memorial services are no longer confined to royalty, senior parliamentarians, high achievers in the arts, field marshals and other such eminences. Last summer there was a service at the abbey in memory of Bobby Moore, OBE, captain of the English World Cup winning team in 1966 (he was capped 108 times) and West Ham United. The Dean of Westminster, Michael Mayne, who conducted the service, says that Moore was a great national figure who excelled in a great national sport "and I thought it right that such greatness should be recognised here. He had made a distinguished contribution to the life of the nation."

> A service is a public affirmation of the unique value of the deceased

All memorial services are services of thanksgiving and, these days, are usually cheerful and heartening rather than sad and mournful. Mr Mayne sees them as "public affirmations of the uniqueness and the value of the deceased's life. The death may have left a feeling of unfinished business. The service can bring a welcome sense of completion. There should be a penitential note. If the gap between the funeral and the memorial service is long enough — it should be some months rather than weeks — then there is time to see the life in perspective."

The dean believes that "good liturgy is also good theatre". All church services are, in some degree, productions. Westminster Abbey services are near-miracles of solemnity, timing, protocol and unobtrusive professionalism.

The professional organisers are led by the Receiver-General, Rear Admiral Kenneth Snow, CB, whose title is ancient and peculiar and conceals the fact that he is the chief administrator of the abbey. He could be described as its chief executive and company secretary. ("I've also been called a jumped-up bursar.") The Receiver-General defers to the dean's ministry but his responsibility is to face the financial realities. For him an abbey memorial service means he has to close the abbey to tourists for half a day, losing up to £10,000.

With three assistant receivers-general (for administration, finance and protocol) Admiral Snow makes the arrangements for all special services of which, in an average year, eight will be memorial services. The abbey does not suggest that there will be a memorial service for anyone. The dean and his colleagues consider and react to suggestions put to them by institutions or individuals.

At a first introductory and preparatory meeting with the chief mourner, Admiral Snow outlines in reassuring detail what is involved in an abbey service. The chief mourner goes away to consult the family and, perhaps, a friendly priest about the choice of hymns and prayers, who should read the lessons, whether the service should be at the abbey or at the smaller St Margaret's next door. The abbey takes up to 1,900 people and will cost about £5,000. St Margaret's accommodates up to 650 and costs about £3,000.

A later, more formal, meeting chaired by the dean is held in the Jerusalem Chamber, the large room in the deanery in which Henry IV died in 1413, where final decisions are made.

The abbey's most theatrical service in recent years was for Laurence Olivier in 1989. The minutes of the planning meeting for it ran to 21 pages. Among the decisions taken was that Patrick Garland, artistic director of the Chichester Festival Theatre, would co-ordinate and direct the non-liturgical parts of the service.

As a result, on the day, symbols of Olivier's life and work were carried in procession to the High Altar by Douglas Fairbanks Jnr, Michael Caine, Maggie Smith, Paul Scofield, Derek Jacobi, Ian McKellen, Dorothy Tutin and Frank Finlay. The symbols included the crowns Olivier wore in the film of *Richard III* and in the television production of *King Lear*; the script used in the film of *Hamlet*; and the insignia of Olivier's Order of Merit. John Gielgud read Donne's "Death be not proud" and Alec Guinness gave the address. And, to the dismay of some, the recorded voice of Olivier was heard reading from *Henry V*.

In contrast, memorial services at St James's, Piccadilly, are less grand. The rector, Donald Reeves, likes to meet the family two or three times after the funeral to plan the service: "I help them to mourn but the meetings make it possible for me to tell them when the mourning should stop."

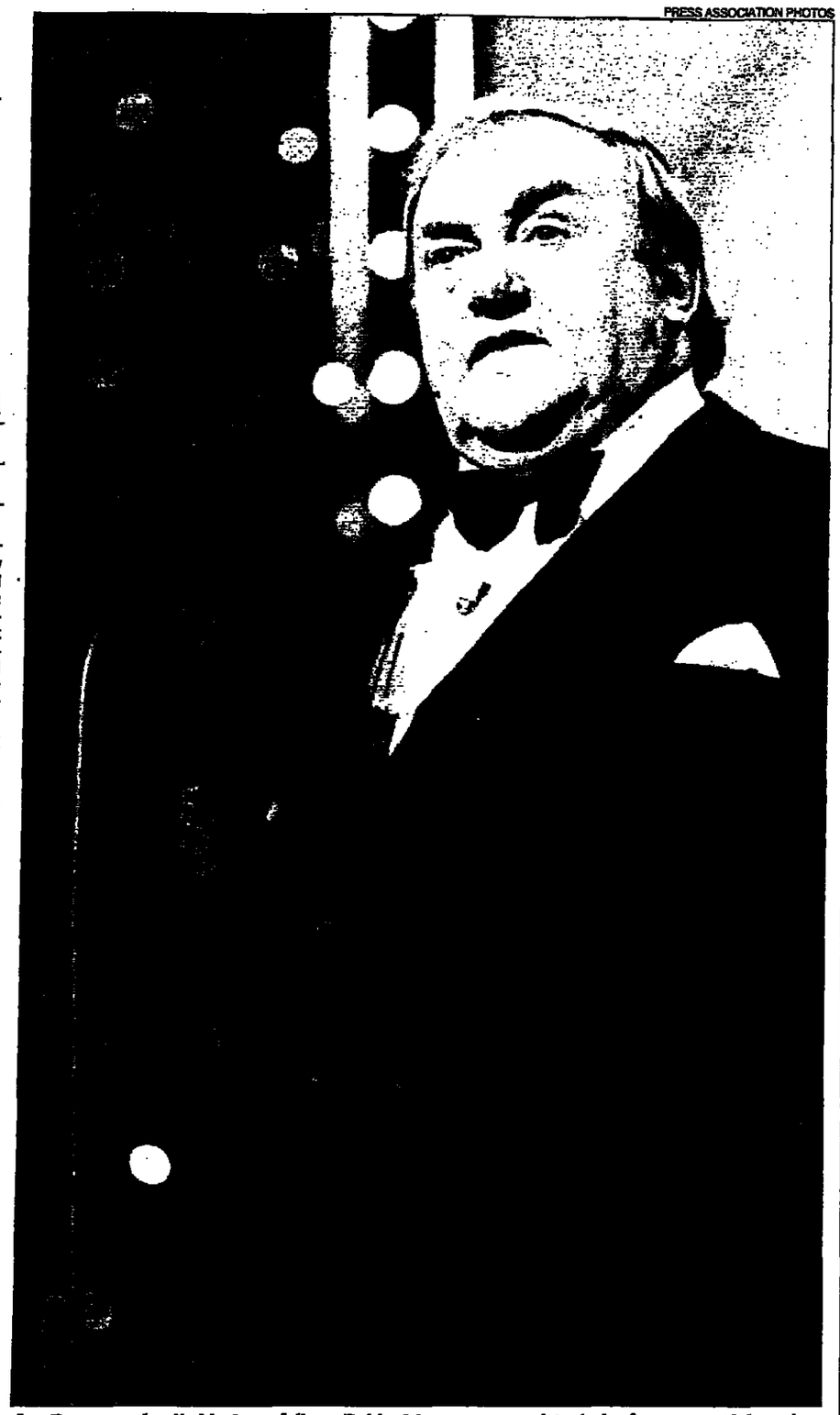
At his very impressive service in thanksgiving for the life of Dame Freya Stark in September extracts from her books were read with proper relish by John Julius Norwich; travel writer Colin Thubron gave an address of high literary merit and only very occasionally needed to look down at his notes; and, throughout the service, a handsome, sculpted head of Dame Freya, set on a pedestal by the lectern, gazed out at the congregation. She seemed much pleased by all that she saw and heard.

When the BBC arranges memorial services — about five a year — they are organised by Sir Roger Cary, Bt. He is a consultant to the Director General and an ex-producer who modestly regards himself as "an enabler exercising tact and humility". The professionals, he says, "are the royal family, the abbey and St Paul's. I do what they say." The service, as a BBC occasion, "must be something of a show, professionally conducted".

Organisers of memorial services (and of funerals) are most likely to get it right if the deceased have the foresight and consideration to say in advance what their wishes are. Peter Fleming, traveller, author, contributor to *The Times* and Strix of *The Spectator*, put ten clear instructions on one sheet of paper four years before he died in 1971. When, after his death, the envelope was opened, it was found that the first instruction read: "Unless lost at sea or otherwise unavailable I would like to be buried at St Bartholomew's, Nettlebed." The seventh was: "The question of a Memorial Service I leave to my family."

Later he added a helpful note saying: "If there is a memorial service, I would like it to be at the Guards Chapel; the parking facilities are unrivalled."

PRESS ASSOCIATION PHOTOS



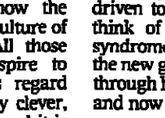
Les Dawson, who died in June, follows Bobby Moore as a people's choice for a memorial service

Dangers of a 12-hour day

So glad to hear the Treasury is doing its bit for family values. The Treasury oracle, the Permanent Secretary, Sir Terry Burns, has for the time being assumed a cosily human shape and instructed the troops to stop working so hard and start getting themselves home at a decent hour. The man deserves a viscountcy, at least.

Don't misunderstand me. I'm not being facetious. Nor am I simply reflecting the views of those in business and industry who reckon there could be no greater boost to the economy than short-time working, or preferably a complete shutdown, at HM Treasury.

I am just keen to see Sir Terry given his due for recognising that workaholism is every bit as prevalent and every bit as injurious to civilisation as, say, absenteeism or alcoholism.



MARGOT NORMAN

You and I, being persons of average idleness and middling ambition, might have not the slightest difficulty complying with Sir Terry's instruction. But how likely are we, in the nose-to-grindstone Nineties, to find ourselves working for somebody who would issue an edict like that? For all the talk of the New Man (more accurately described as Weekend New Man), what chance has he who gets home in time to put the baby to bed of rising in any organisation these days? No, the average boss now is a man or woman who knows it is safe to say to any valued employee who has just asked to go home early: "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen." There ain't no cooler kitchen to go to, so if the boss stays late, you stay late, too. Even the Jobsworths have started turning into Stakhanovites.

It is easy to see how the Treasury developed its culture of macho workaholism. All those who go there and aspire to become senior officials regard themselves as frightfully clever, and frightfully diligent, and it is vital for their progress that everybody else sees them in the same light. The simplest way to demonstrate both qualities is to stay late in the office, producing endless documents for ministers which make a mockery of the term "briefing". First one home's a cissy — and that goes as much for the 45 per cent of women who work there as for the 55 per cent of men who set the tone.

Eventually, since a few people there are as clever as they think they are, it was noticed that these elephantine briefings were a waste of everybody's time. For the Budget before this one, for example, the briefing notes occupied two volumes so heavy that the official responsible for getting them over to the House nearly did his back in. Needless to say, he had put in an awful lot of extra hours tagging key pages so he could find the information he might be asked for, but he was asked for none of it. Of course he wasn't, since it was all the detailed stuff that nobody thinks to ask until they have had a week to digest the Budget, but officials had bunged it all in just in case. In such ways the Treasury learnt the error in time to stop the briefing notes for last week's combined Budget plus public spending announcement requiring a pantechnicon.

It seems that long hours become addictive in the same way as the adrenalin high of aerobic exercise. I've never been addicted to either, but a hard-driven commercial lawyer I know tells me it is the same drug. "You get hooked," she said, "and it's a terrible habit to get into, because once you develop the stamina to start at eight and keep going, negotiating and redrafting takeover documents until two in the morning, day after day, you start thinking the rest of the world is shirking."

She is a sensible woman, this lawyer, but even she couldn't resist an involuntary sniff when I said the Treasury was concerned to find so many of its staff working 11-hour days. Eleven hours? You'll find plenty of lawyers and merchant bankers who, however ready they are to admit that their own working days are crazy, secretly look down on those who work a mere 11 hours as amateurs.

Part of the point of the Treasury exercise is to help women with family commitments get to the top. So far only 7 per cent have done so, and although one woman working a four-day week has risen to Under Secretary rank, I dread to think of the hours that go into those days. Senior professional women are still, in general, too few and too driven to have given up what I think of as the school prefect syndrome; this involves letting the new girls know that you went through hell to get where you are, and now it's their turn.

Thus, the culture perpetuates itself, and women go on trying to prove themselves by working harder than men who are already putting in ridiculous hours for no better reason than addiction.

We used to kid ourselves that only Japanese businessmen went in for this unbalanced sort of existence, and then it was Americans. Now it's us. The sentiments involved are not, actually, so very far from those expressed by one of the three idlers in Jerome K. Jerome's boat: "I like work: it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours. I love to keep it by me: the idea of getting rid of it nearly breaks my heart." Especially, perhaps, the idea of getting rid of it fast enough to catch the train that will get you home in time for a bedtime tantrum from a jammy-fingered ruffian. He looks so much better as you usually see him, sound asleep.

Today's tearaway toffs are following in a long and ignoble aristocratic tradition

Cads who blow a fortune

THE Marquess of Bristol spent his first day in jail yesterday, at the start of a ten-month sentence for possessing heroin and cocaine. Ickworth, the stately home in Suffolk that his family has occupied since the 15th century, is to be sold to the National Trust to meet the debts of a man once said to be worth £20 million.

Bristol's tale has a depressing sense of *déjà vu*. Not a month, it seems, goes by without another tale of the evil antics of the upper classes. A Martian making a study of the British aristocracy could easily be forgiven for imagining that anyone could become a peer of the realm, provided they possessed the following requirements: an addiction to hard drugs, several driving bans for speeding, a failed marriage and a loveless childhood.

The misdeeds of tearaway toffs such as Viscount Mandeville, who offered to sell his title for a six-figure sum, or the miscreant's miscreant, Lord Blandford, are meat and drink to every advocate of the classless society. "These fellows are the best reason imaginable for abolishing the House of Lords," said one peer, who asked to be nameless. "Whenever I read about their latest trick, I always expect to look out of the window and see the village erecting a guillotine in my grounds."

THE concept of the dastardly peer is as ancient as the tale of Bluebeard. "There have always been Lord Bristols right through history," says John Grigg, the historian and constitutional expert. "The privileged going to the bad is the stuff of novels." Think of the 4th Earl Ferrers, who was hanged for murdering his steward, or the 7th Earl of Pembroke, who committed a score of murders but was brought to trial only twice for assault, or the 3rd Marquess of Waterford, who put aniseed on the hooves of a parson's horse before hunting him down with bloodhounds. Drink-driving pales in comparison.

The Bristol family, in particular, has a long pedigree of villainy. The current marquess's father served three years for his part in a Mayfair jewellery theft during the 1930s.

Another member of the same dynasty was described by Alexander Pope as "that milk-white curd of asses' milk" addicted to "that detestable and poisonous plant tea, which once brought him to death's door". The countess of the 3rd earl was tried for bigamy in addition to being accused of holding up a banker at gunpoint in Rome, while of the 4th earl it was said: "His ambition and his lust alone can get the better of his avarice."



A family tradition: the Marquess of Bristol

Blandford's lineage, despite containing such paragons as the Duke of Marlborough and Winston Churchill, shows even more telling signs that breeding will out. The Churchill family motto is Faithful but Unfortunate and Gladstone famously observed in 1882 that: "There never was a Churchill, from John of Marlborough, that had either morals or principles."

Jonathan Swift said the first duke was "as covetous as hell", the 6th duke was involved in a court case "gravely reflecting on his moral character" and the "wicked" 8th duke sold off Blenheim's treasures in the 1880s.

It could be argued that by perpetuating such misbehaviour, Blandford and his chums are merely carrying on in true aristocratic style. Certainly the marquess is aware of his heritage. "One has to live dangerously, otherwise life would be so maudlin. Of course I'm not going to give myself up, we are a family of winners not losers. I will do like my great ancestors would have done," he told a reporter in June, while on the run.

INDEED, the clean-living majority of British toffs are so low key as to be virtually unnoticeable. The Duke of Westminster, the richest man in the land, leads an exemplary life, working a ten-hour day and has announced he will send his son to the local school. Earl Spencer is leading a blameless existence as a television commentator. Lord Lichfield is a photographer, his sister, Lady Elizabeth Anson, a professional party planner. Even Prince Edward is now running a television production company. Every year the debs at Queen Charlotte's Ball tell us they are doing this for mummy and their real ambition is to become an ophthalmic optician in Grimsby.

The aristocracy may have lost its glamour, but it is not yet a spent force, according to Grigg. "The political clout of the landowning classes is certainly much diminished, but there are still a lot of big estates in existence with owners who remain quite active locally and are doing quite a lot of good there. It's a humdrum business being an aristocrat these days."

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

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Alan Coren



■ Please Michael, stick to your guns. The rank and file are right behind you

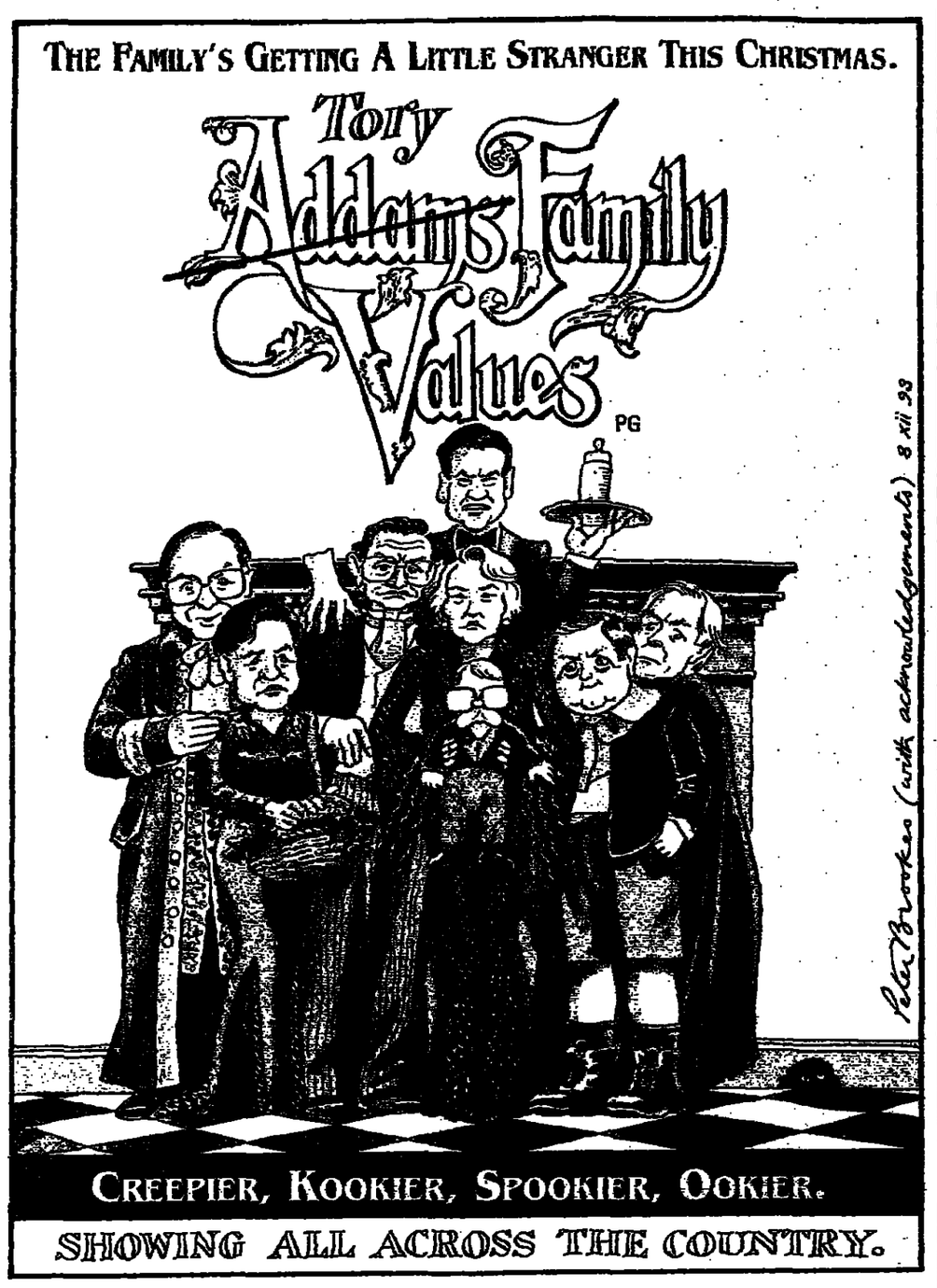
I blame myself. I know this Government by now, I know that it wakes up every morning with a wonderful new idea, I know that over the boiled egg its wife murmurs, Coo, beloved, what a wonderful idea, I know that it gets into its car and is reassured by its driver about the new idea, I know that it tells everyone about its idea all morning, and they all go, Oh yes, wow, my word, that is a corker and no mistake, so it announces its wonderful new idea, and someone says, Hang on a minute, and then the Government goes away and has a bit of a think, and pretty soon it is tinkering with the idea and soon after that the idea is all over and there is nothing for it but to hit the sack and come up with another wonderful new idea for the next morning, so you can see why I blame myself.

Because, early last week, I was sitting opposite the Home Secretary at dinner, engaged in the innocent social commerce of persiflage and quip, and all the time the spare capacity of that remarkable brain was cobbling together the next day's wonderful new government idea, for it was his turn; and although I didn't know it was his turn, I might have made a smart guess, since he hadn't announced one for at least a week and the next morning there it was, and the next evening there it wasn't, and if I only had asked him whether he had a wonderful new idea, I could have dragged him from our host's table to the cupboard under the stairs and told him how to make the new idea, for once, work, instead of allowing it to go off at half-cock as a flash in the pan; and if you think two ballistic clichés are a bit much, even for me, let me defend their aptness on the ground that we know a bit about musketry, in the 17th/21st Cricklewood Volunteers.

Yes, that is the wonderful new idea it is; or was, before it became the terrible old idea. It was announced the following day as Mr Howard's plan for organised street patrols, and hardly were the words out before my exhilarated neighbours and I were on the mutual blower, discussing the relative merits of knobkerry and pick-handle, was it better to have hard hats for safety or black balaclavas for terror, should we march mob-handed down the middle of the roads or skulk the hedges in covert threat, how many did karate, who knew semaphore, could we muster enough mountain bikes for a decent cavalry unit, where could we get a bull-horn, an Aldiss lamp, a Mace spray, a Rottie?

But hardly had we rung off and gone our several ways to make our delegated enquiries in preparation for that evening's inaugural moot before the Home Secretary's nervous temporising started. Under pressure from senior coppers, caring wets, Opposition timeservers, and moaning media minnies of every sort, the climbdown began: not only could patrols not bear arms, they were not even to be allowed uniforms (I, ever the traditionalist, was already at work on a fetching combination of jodhpurs and epauletted flak-jackets, particularly after the bloke next door had put in a claim for black Lycra which might easily have misled civilians into thinking we were merely delivering Milk Tray), and as for our giving suspects a bloody good hiding and manacling them (or, more sensibly, vice-versa), this was totally out of order. All a patrol could do was mince about with poserphones and, on spotting something suspicious, ring Plod, who, when he had finished his jam-roll, would amble round and take down a statement for subsequent typing and filing.

Oh, would that I had had the nous to buttonhole Michael when I had the chance! For he does not have the first inkling of the mood out here in the suburbs, where his core electorate grows more fugitive by the hour not simply because his Government does either nothing well or everything badly, but because whatever is done is done so ineffably dully. We are disaffected because we are bored, and, last week, a banner began to unfurl behind which we would have been thrilled to march, and then it was furled again. It is not that we want justice, or even revenge, we just want to have fun, we want to form fours and whistle Tipperary in descant to our rhythmic hobnails, to make big maps and stick little coloured flags in them, to honk Klaxons, vault fences and flash big torches, to debrief one another over enamelled mugs of rummy tea. In short, a bit of National Service would do us the world of good.



Questions of both Church and State

George Austin, Archdeacon of York, asks if Charles can be trusted again

Ten years ago, Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer exchanged solemn vows before God in their fairy-tale wedding, promising lifelong faithfulness to one another. It was a fairy-tale which, as we now know, quickly went sour. If the stories are true (and they have never been denied, as surely they would had they been false, if only for the sake of the Parker-Bowles family), then Charles quickly began to break these vows, and did so persistently until the separation a year ago. There is nothing uncommon in this in the 1990s, and for that matter it is nothing new in the history of the monarchy. One king prevented his wife from entering Westminster Abbey for his coronation, and another went to meet his Maker with mistress and wife by the death-bed.

At his coronation, Charles would again be asked to make solemn vows to God to be faithful to his calling as monarch. The question certainly needs at least to be asked (if only now because the matter has been brought into the public domain by media stories, now denied, of comments by the Archbishop of Canterbury): if his attitude to his vows of matrimony was so cavalier, has he the right to be trusted in this second solemnity? The answer of course may be that the nation would trust him to do this, that attitudes to morality — and to matrimony — have so changed that the idea of fidelity is outdated.

Even the Church no longer speaks with the same authority or unanimity it enjoyed, say, at the abdication crisis in 1936. But trust, once broken, is hard to restore, though at a coronation service an Archbishop of Canterbury would be required to assume it. Even if the Church were to change its fairly rigid attitude to remarriage after divorce, it would not be likely to give blanket approval. There would be conditions, and certainly grave doubts if an adulterous relationship had begun almost before the honeymoon was over.

Of course for the Christian there is always the possibility of repentance and forgiveness. No sin is too great to be redeemed. If the heir to the throne is an adulterer, then God would fully meet his penitence. But there is still a price to pay for those in public life. If I, as Archdeacon of York, fiddled the books or cheated on my wife, penitence for my acts would lead to redemption; but I would feel duty-bound to resign from my archdeaconry because I would have betrayed the trust people had put in me. It may be that Prince Charles has gone too far for that same trust to be restored.

> The Prince may have forfeited our trust already

Of course there is no vacancy at present, and if the Queen follows her mother's longevity, Charles will be well into his seventies before he succeeds. Time may have healed wounds, or have persuaded him that the monarchy could well jump a generation. If there were to be a reconciliation between the Prince and Princess, we woud be in a new situation. Marriages do pass through difficulties, and the strength of a good one is gained because the partners have worked at making it so.

But accession to the throne is not the only problem. The monarch is Supreme Governor of the Church of England, and on moving appointments the clergy must declare an oath of allegiance to the Queen. If a divorced Charles — or worse, a divorced and remarried Charles — were king, it would raise serious problems for many of the more traditional clergy in swearing their allegiance. There is a deeper question here, about the relevance in any event of such a requirement on the clergy.

Its origins lie in the 16th century, when pope and king were in conflict for the loyalty of both Church and nation. To demand what was in effect an oath of obedience from the clergy was to enforce their own theological and political loyalty. The relevance of this today in either Church or State is obscure, to say the least. Perhaps there is a heaven-sent opportunity in the present controversy to remove it altogether. But more to the point, it gives Prince Charles a chance to recognise that his behaviour raises questions not only about his own role but about the monarchy's very survival.

After three fiascos in foreign affairs, Clinton is rebuilding his presidency on three negotiated successes

Trade before policy

Simon Jenkins

Some time ago, a European foreign minister politely asked the American Secretary of State for news of his "policy". The creature had not yet been seen in public. There were some who doubted its birth. "My policy", said Warren Christopher unnervingly, "is to support my president's domestic agenda."

Since then, Mr Christopher has been as good as his word. He has tested to destruction the theory that a secretary of state need not be charismatic to be effective. But the policy to which he referred is at least moving out of incubation. It has even been seen cradled in the President's arms.

Any visitor to Washington is made aware that Mr Christopher was not joking. There are too many signs of a Gibbonesque decline and fall at the heart of the new world empire for that. Foreign policy is not central to the Clinton presidency. What is central is the search for social and economic order at home.

Yet ask those close to Bill Clinton to name what are called the "three thorns" of his first year of office and they reel off Bosnia, Somalia and Haiti. Foreign policy may not be central, but it is televisual. When it goes right, as George Bush found in Kuwait, popularity soars. When it goes wrong, as Mr Clinton found in Somalia in October, popularity plummets. Home-based troubles are drawn out, and intractable. Foreign ones are instant, offering death or glory on the nail.

In November 1992, Mr Clinton boasted that his foreign policy, unlike that of President Bush, would be based on a "disciplined, aggressive approach" which would help him avoid spending all his time "waiting for a problem to explode". There would be clear criteria for foreign intervention. After Cold War would come hot peace. A year on, there is no such plan, though a draft is wafting between the State department and the White House. Instead the President finds himself plagued by the same crisis management he promised to avoid. America was supposed to get out of Somalia long ago. It is still there. To Bosnia's emissaries Mr Clinton promised air attacks on Serbia and a lifting of the arms embargo. He has delivered neither. To Haiti's oppressed citizens he promised the return of democracy. He backed off at the first sign of trouble. Mr Clinton is now said to be a wiser man.

The year 1993 has seen American policy race through the complete Hegelian sequence of thesis, anti-thesis and (possibly) synthesis. From Cold War to new world order was easy. Having led the triumph over communism, America offered the planet its military and moral supremacy. The role of world policemen was for the taking. After Kuwait, American muscles bulged beneath the blue uniform of the United Nations. The UN underwent a media apotheosis. Now surely the world would behave.

That was way back in the mists of time, the start of 1993. The world has refused to behave. It has run riot. There are 35 wars, give or take a dozen, classified by the UN. Warlords say boo to the American goose. The anti-thesis was shortlived. Where now is the synthesis?

Unless my eyes are deceiving me, I think I can at last discern one emerging from the Washington fog. There is substance in the "three crowns" to set beside the three thorns: the Pacific-rim conference in Seattle, the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta), and this week's hoped-for completion of Gatt. These are the real symbols of the President's new strategy: after military security must come world economic security.

American growth over the past two years far outstripped Europe's. The engine of this growth has been trade within the Americas and with the Far East. Mr Clinton knows that promoting this trade is the key to finding more jobs for Americans. He has changed his mind here. As Prince Hal he may have flattered the protectionist lobbies that besieged the Democratic Party during the campaign; but today he turns them away with a curt, "Presume not that I am the thing I was". Experience of both Nafta and Gatt has convinced him that this is a crusade in which America must take a lead. Nafta/Gatt is the new Nato.

Yet economic diplomacy shifts attention away from the regions of nuclear diplomacy. Diplomats may say to worried Europeans that "more attention to the Pacific does not mean less to the Atlantic"; realists say this is rubbish. Growth in transpacific trade now exceeds transatlantic growth. China's economy has grown 15 per cent in each of the past two years. This is where American investment is booming.

The brief spat with China over human rights in Seattle was sincere but not significant. Nor is Mr Clinton's new China policy merely commercial. Korea is the new horror threatening to test his crisis management: a million troops ready to rerun the Korean war. Washington needs Peking's help as a restraining hand and needs it badly.

And Europe? Europe is seen in Washington as either complacent or a mess. At very least it can be taken for granted. The foreign ministries of Europe may have watched Mr Clinton flounder in his early days with some smugness. But Europe's Maastricht introversion while Yugoslavia burned will not be forgotten. Its petty protectionism is still plaguing Gatt. Its reluctance to trade with former communist states retards their recovery. Last week at the Nato's summit, America studiously supported Russia in its reluctance to see Nato members advancing right to its borders. If the former Warsaw-pact countries are so worried about Russia as to want to become full members of Nato, Western Europe can calm them down. America's Europe policy now centres on Russia. Russian democracy and internal security are the priority.

Next month, Mr Clinton begins the first of three visits to Europe in 1994. He has made some European friends, notably with the German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, but relations with France remain Gatt-locked. Relations with John Major are cool, not just because of the apparent partisanship towards Mr Bush at the election, but also because of Mr Major's excuse for not supporting Mr Clinton over Bosnia: that he "could not sustain his government" if he did so. It was not an excuse Washington heard from Lady Thatcher.

But Europe will have cards to play. As yet another American President inches his way along the learning curve, ever more questions will be asked. What is meant by Mr Christopher's new "partnership for peace" under Nato? Where stand the old guarantees, the nuclear umbrella, the long-term commitment of American troops in Europe? As for that campaign promise of a clear plan for intervention, total confusion reins — or at least total public opinion.

That opinion, say the cynics, is like the Duke of York. Television and the press march the marines up to the top of the interventionist hill, watch a few get shot and promptly marches them down again. America says it has no intention of staging another Somalian intervention, for instance in Angola or Armenia. Somalia has led Mr Clinton to retreat even from his commitment to send 20,000 "peacekeepers" to the former Yugoslavia. But does that mean America will never intervene anywhere? How might a South Korean, let alone a Pole or an Estonian, feel just now? Must they be starving before CNN calls in the marines? Or merely threatened? Or must "American interests" be threatened too? The new diplomacy of world trade leaves these questions hanging.

I believe no American President can prevent foreign affairs dominating his life. Even without a Cold War, Mr Clinton is still condemned to trial by overseas emergencies. By these drumbeats does the world judge his firmness of purpose. Their rhythm is at least familiar. But their message is still uncertain.

Peer group pressure

MANY PEERS will be eminently qualified to debate the Government's tough anti-crime measures. There are the law lords, of course . . . and then there are those, such as the Marquess of Bristol, who have commited felonies of their own.

These peers aside, one of the chamber's regular attenders, the hereditary peer Lord Monkswell, may very soon see the system operating at first hand. He faces a charge of grievous bodily harm after an incident involving a two-foot spanner and his girl-friend's male psychotherapist at a Manchester clinic. Committal proceedings will be held on December 20.

The former factory worker and hard-left Manchester councillor was charged in October under his plebian name of Gerry Collier, aged 46, of Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton.

After checking with the Lords' authorities, Monkswell has been assured that, if found guilty, he will not be barred from his duties on Labour's backbenches. Only aliens, bankrupts, traitors and juveniles are disqualified.

"My intention is to continue in the House of Lords," he declares, although he remains dedicated to abolishing the



place. Monkswell has already entered Westminster folklore for admitting a group of lesbians into a privileged gallery five years ago. They promptly abseiled into the chamber.

● *Lord Renton, the former MP for Huntingdon, clearly doesn't share his successor's ideal of a classless society. Spotting a well-heeled lady arrive at a London reception this week for his charity, the Renton Foundation, the old boy trembled with excitement. "A duke's daughter . . . and a good duke at that," he muttered — before rushing to embrace her.*

DIARY

Spare acres

NOBODY was more astonished yesterday by the sorry tale of the Marquess of Bristol and his prison sentence than the National Trust, which owns Ickworth House, his family home in Suffolk, and its 1,800 acres.

For press reports of the trial on Monday misguidedly suggested that the National Trust was about to fork out £2 million for the remainder of Ickworth's 4,000 acres, to help bail out the 39-year-old classic car enthusiast who blew £7 million on drugs. One newspaper even said the trust was on the verge of buying the house it already owns. "It was all news to us. We own the house and the contents, and Lord Bristol is our tenant," says Paul Dixon a spokesman. "Supposedly, he is going to sell us the rest of the estate for £2 million. But we haven't even been approached, so we are very surprised by all this talk of us buying. I'm not even sure if we would want it."

Fish out of water

LIFE is looking up for the Chelsea Arts Club's carp, which for the last few years has had a hard time at the hands of a predatory heron. It has been removed to Regent's Park and is said to be flourishing.

Over the years the carp has been divebombed by herons, which fly in from nearby Battersea Park, as well as poked and prodded by children. Now, club members, worried it might not survive another airborne raid, have dispatched it to frolick in the park's spacious boating lake.

The news cheers George Melly, an Arts Club stalwart. "Good-ho! Excellent news. Herons are dangerous beasts and do tend to take people's fish." And Peter Southgate, of the Fish Veterinary Society, adds solemnly: "Heron attack is a common cause of loss."

Take a bow

FORGET the change in the divorce laws. The biggest news for society-watchers was that Richard Branson, at the launch of Virgin's new Airbus, was wearing a tie. He has been quoted more than once saying he cannot think of an occasion when he would consider wearing one.

So was the change of attire in honour of the Princess of Wales, who was naming the plane? Not at all, says his spokesman. "Richard was wearing a cabin crew's uniform."

● *The need for plain English is foremost in the mind of the farming populus. One of the more controversial motions to be put before the annual general meeting of the Farmers Club concerns the need for an apostrophe in the club's name. But where?*

More tea, vicar?

WHILE the Archdeacon of York concerns himself with the Prince of Wales's job prospects, the Bishop of Hereford, the Rt Rev John Oliver, has decided to take a part-time job — as a hotel waiter.

This Friday, he will bustle round the tables for two hours in Hereford's Green Dragon Hotel, with an appropriately decorative waistcoat over his purple shirt of office.

Although his extra-curricular activity is in a good cause — for a local radio station has promised £1,000 to charity for his teatime ministrations — the Bishop admits to nerves. "I worked as a waiter when I was a student, and hope to draw on that experience."



Chipping in for charity

There are definite signs of improvement in the property market, judging by the return to the boorish days of old witnessed at an estate agents' Christmas dinner on Monday night attended by the actress Fiona Fullerton.

The first course, at a West End hotel, passed smoothly enough, but come the main course at the Business and Industrial Agents Society charity dinner, food was thrown. A potato hit Fullerton squarely in the chest, and she was so appalled, according to diners, that she left the room.

Delicate negotiations followed, and Fullerton was persuaded to return to help raise money through a raffle for charity. An auction followed at which the offending item was sold for more than £200. "It was just that people were letting their hair down. They haven't had much to celebrate for the last few years," says a spokesman for the event. "I think it was a pretty fair shot, but I suppose they paid for it in the end."

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FIT TO RULE

A king need not be a model husband

In the year since the separation of the Prince and Princess of Wales, there has been speculation among churchmen about the damage their personal misfortune might cause the monarchy. The public position of the Church has been to support the heir to the throne. In private, however, some churchmen have argued that the moral authority of the monarchy has been dangerously diminished. Yesterday, the Archdeacon of York, the Venerable George Austin, made these fears public, alleging that the break-up of the royal marriage had weakened Prince Charles's claim to the succession.

Mr Austin develops his attack on the page opposite, basing his stance on allegations, still unproven, that the prince has conducted an adulterous affair throughout his marriage. He does not, and could not, claim that immoral behaviour bars an heir from the throne. He concludes rather that a man who insincerely makes marriage vows and breaks those vows throughout his married life cannot be trusted to keep the vows of his coronation. This so-called "moral argument", whatever the nature of the Prince's behaviour in marriage, is mischievous, fallacious, aggressive in language and wholly regrettable.

Mr Austin invites the prince's future subjects to question his succession to the throne on the grounds that "there is a price to pay for those in public life". In so doing, he confuses the respective public roles of king and politician. An MP found to be unfaithful to his wife is guilty of hypocrisy if he has campaigned for family values; in a more general sense, it may also be argued that his deceit makes him unworthy of the public's trust. Rarely can a politician's public life be wholly held distinct from his private conduct.

A king, in contrast, is not elected or held accountable to a manifesto. He is a symbol of nationhood and history rather than the spokesman of a moral position. His authority flows from popular allegiance to an institution rather than trust in an individual. Although such allegiance can be be threatened by poor private conduct,the presumption that a king should be, as a matter of prime importance, a moral exemplar to the nation is a comparatively weak and recent one.

Medieval thinkers employed the concept of a "king's two bodies" to divide the monarch's fallible, physical self from his role as an idealistic symbol of the realm. Only since Victorian times has there grown the much less subtle notion of the royal family as a group of paragons. It can be argued that a new sovereign's moral authority in dealings with his governments might be weaker if his personal life were tarnished. But much else can damage such relationships. There is no issue of principle here.

Mr Austin's equivalence of coronation and marriage vows is cruder still. The Prince's vow of marriage was a public witness before God of a private commitment to his wife. A pledge of sexual fidelity is not the same as a pledge to serve a nation. A man whose marriage falters does not *ipso facto* become untrustworthy or incompetent. Ross Perot attempted to argue that point — but that was in the rough and tumble of an American presidential election in which it was clearly and rightly rejected. The Hussites of the fifteenth century made similar claims — also for their own political rather than moral ends.

To recognise with dignity that a relationship has failed often requires great honesty and reserves of character. Marital fidelity is an important part of the Church's teaching. It is a form of loyalty rightly valued by Christianity. But it is not a value overcoming all others. Mr Austin's contention here is idiosyncratic to say the least.

For many, this debate over the monarch's role as supreme governor of the Church will strengthen the case for disestablishment. Although the Act of Settlement requires only that the sovereign be a communicant Anglican, the Royal Marriages Act limits considerably the monarch's freedom to marry, divorce or remarry. As *The Times* has argued in the past, the repeal of that archaic law would strengthen the monarchy and liberate it from controversy.

But the moral argument is as important as constitutional minutiae. In all that he has done in recent years, Prince Charles has demonstrated a determination to subordinate his personal life to the interests of the nation. Even his unhappy marriage can be seen as an attempt to fulfil public expectations of him as heir to the throne. The misfortunes of the prince's private life have been a regrettable chapter in the history of the monarchy; but they are an unjust, unreliable and unconstitutional test of his fitness to rule.

SET SUNDAY FREE

MPs have a chance tonight to support the liberty of the citizen

Tonight members of Parliament will vote on a measure which would hugely improve the ordinary lives of about two-thirds of their constituents and make no difference to the remaining third. Put like that, deregulation of Sunday trading should pass without a hitch. But it has become a subject on which many MPs have separated themselves from the stated wishes of their constituents.

In the past 12 national opinion polls, roughly 65 per cent of respondents have expressed the desire for shops to be open on Sundays; not surprisingly, since full-time workers are denied the chance to shop within the law for a full 50 per cent of their leisure time. The boring chores of life all have to be crammed into one day of the week, Saturday. It is all very well for some men to claim that Sunday should be kept special; but working women who also have a family to organise rarely have the luxury of doing nothing for half their weekend. Dealing with the necessities neglected during the week takes more than one day.

Sunday opening, either totally or partially deregulated, would greatly enhance the ease with which these people lead their lives. And, crucially, it would make no difference to the one-third of the population who want to keep their Sundays special. They would still be free to go to church and refrain from shopping. If they are shop assistants themselves, they would not be forced to work against their will. The difference is that the state would no longer insist that other people refrain from shopping, against their will, on the same day.

An extra day of opening would not cost jobs. Even the shopworkers' union, Usdaw, now backs the partial deregulation option to be put before MPs tonight, which allows small shops to open when they like but restricts big shops to six hours between 10am and 6pm. Present and future workers would be protected from enforced Sunday working. Many more people would be able to earn extra money by filling in on a Sunday for those with Sabbatarian views.

Nor are small shops threatened. They do not compete directly with supermarkets. They cater for the convenience trade, for those who want to pick up the odd pint of milk or forgotten ingredient for Sunday lunch. Most of their Sunday business takes place in the morning, before supermarkets open, when customers buy a few goods along with their newspapers. Shopkeepers should decide their opening hours on the basis of demand from their customers and their own individual preferences: their decision should not be the concern of the criminal justice system.

The question before MPs is not whether some people should continue to observe different habits on one day of the week but whether the state should force everybody to do so, regardless of their beliefs, their religion or their family responsibilities. Most members profess to believe in liberty. Tonight is their chance to prove that they do.

A STATESMAN CALLS

How different would a world without Gorbachev have been?

Mikhail Gorbachev is a living refutation of the Marxist principle that history is shaped by economic and social forces, not by personalities. He can be argued to have done more to change the map of Europe by peaceful means than any other statesman since Metternich. However much he is derided and debunked in his own homeland, he is a welcome visitor to Britain.

His six-day lecture tour has all the trappings of a state visit, with a Guildhall banquet, a lunch at Downing Street, a reception at the Palace of Westminster and civic ceremonies and honours from Aberdeen to Bristol. More importantly, he had lunch yesterday with Baroness Thatcher, the Western leader who discovered that she could do business with him and persuaded her fellow statesmen to follow her lead.

There was always something special in the relationship between the two. There was plenty of ideological cut and thrust from two people not noted for their reticence or willingness to concede a point. If there was also a special twinkle in Mr Gorbachev's soft brown eyes, it was diplomatically translated as the "personal chemistry" that made for successful encounters.

Now the two elder statesmen, top earners both on the international lecture circuit, can reflect on their shaping of history and indulge in the game, invented by Pascal with his musing on the fatal beauty of Cleopatra's nose, on what would have happened had they not been there. What if the politburo comrades had not heeded Andrei Gromyko's recommendation that "this man has a nice smile but iron teeth"? Supposing another doddering septuagarian had followed the unlamented Konstantin Chernenko: would the Brezhnevite "time of stagnation" have been prolonged until the next state funeral? Or what if the Russian nationalists, carefully hiding their hand behind the slogans of communist claptrap, had chosen a tough young hardliner — Grigory Romanov, the disgraced Leningrad party boss, for example? Would there have have been no perestroika, no glasnost, no fall of the Berlin Wall and no escape for Eastern Europe from Soviet domination?

Many people in Russia today, indulging in the same speculation, conclude that Mr Gorbachev was an unmitigated disaster for their country. But for his unravelling of communism, the Soviet Union would still be standing today, they insist, and sausage would still be affordable. Maybe. But certainly Mr Gorbachev made a big difference.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Customers and retailers, large and small, examine Sunday shopping

From Mr Maurice Healy

Sir, I first became involved in the arguments about shop hours when I was editing *Which?* in 1974. Research we did then showed that the law was ludicrously complicated and widely flouted and that large numbers of people would have liked to be able to shop at times the law forbade — on Sundays and after 8pm on weekdays.

It is a scandal that in a democratic society the situation remains the same nearly 20 years later. In spite of all the efforts that have been made to liberalise the law, the House of Commons has consistently ignored the clearly expressed view of the majority of constituents.

This is, essentially, a libertarian issue. Shopping is a morally neutral activity. When it takes place should be a matter between those involved: consenting adults should be free to shop when they choose. If shopkeepers want to open, shopworkers are prepared to work and customers to buy, why should the State prevent them?

And worst of all, I find it repugnant that shopkeepers who have decided that it does not suit them to open on Sunday should try to persuade Parliament to prevent others from doing so.

I trust that MPs will see through this anti-competitive selfishness and vote to put the power to decide when shops should open where it should be — in the hands of shoppers.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
MAURICE HEALY,
15 Onslow Gardens, N10.
December 6.

From the Reverend Trevor Williams

Sir, Thirty million people, according to last week's press advertisement, and now the Vicar of Linthwaite (letter, December 1) as well, want to be free to shop where they like on Sunday as on any other day. Never mind the freedom denied to shopworkers to spend time with their families or in other freely chosen pursuits.

If any argument is specious it is that working on Sundays will be voluntary. It is the less wealthy members of society who will suffer to suit the demands of the better off; the less privileged who will have less time with their children to help them learn what is right or wrong. I hope our legislators will vote in shopworkers' interests and in the long-term interests of us all.

Yours faithfully,
TREVOR WILLIAMS
(Chaplain Fellow),
Trinity College, Oxford.
December 6.

From the Joint Managing Director of J. Sainsbury and others

Sir, Wednesday's debate in the House of Commons gives MPs the opportunity to vote for a sensible solution to the question of Sunday trading. The Shopping Hours Reform Council's compromise option would allow small shops to open for as long as they liked and large stores for a maximum of six hours, and all shopworkers would have the freedom of choice whether or not to work on a Sunday.

This formula reconciles the needs of consumers and shopworkers without sacrificing the special nature of Sunday. It is an option which is simple and easy to enforce. It is supported by a wide coalition of store groups, trades unions, consumers and politicians.

Mr Stuart Hampson, chairman of the John Lewis Partnership (article, December 4), says that the 1950 Shops Act is "open to easy ridicule". The problem is that the restrictive option he favours replaces one set of ridiculous rules with another, and one which would be virtually impossible to enforce.

His claim that small businesses will be "knocked out" has no basis in fact. The main threat to small shops is from 13,000 garage forecourt shops, and 36 per cent of this "top-up" shopping is done early, before the 10am threshold for large-store opening provided for in the SHRC option. The restrictive option would, in fact, damage small businesses. Many small shops, such as farm shops, antique shops and most shops in tourist areas, would be forced to close on Sundays. In addition, DIY stores and garden centres would face so many restrictions on what they could sell that most of them would not be able to open.

As long as consumers wish to shop on a Sunday and shopworkers are willing to work on a Sunday, why should MPs stop them?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID QUARMBY,
Joint Managing Director, J. Sainsbury,
PATRICK GILLAM (Chairman, Asda),
STANLEY KALMS (Chairman, Dixons),
IAN MacLAURIN (Chairman, Tesco),
GEOFFREY MULCAHY
(Chairman, Kingfisher),
COLIN SMITH
(Chief Executive, Argyll Group),
c/o Stamford House,
Stamford Street, SE1.
December 7.

From the Deputy Director of the Consumers' Association

Sir, The spectacle of a major retailer pleading to be restrained from trading is not the least of the anomalies arising from proposals to re-regulate Sunday shopping.

Stuart Hampson is generous in espousing the cause of the elderly, the handicapped, those without cars and shopworkers, but is misguided in suggesting that there is a socially apocalyptic price to be paid for Sunday shopping. Sunday shopping is, after all, what we have at the moment; reform of the law — in line with the Government's current drive to deregulate — merely regularises this state of affairs.

As the longest-standing exponent of the only option guaranteed to give consumers what they want, the Consumers' Association has consistently argued for total deregulation. It is the simplest, the fairest and the cheapest option. It is also common sense. The current law contains famous anomalies. Re-regulation, along the lines promoted by Retailers for Shops Act Reform and the Keep Sunday Special campaign, would bring in a whole new set of anomalies to excite the admiration and amazement of our heirs.

For instance, the regulatory regime espoused by John Lewis would result in a small supermarket of 270 sq ft being able to stay open all Sunday, while nearby premises of 290 sq ft would be forced to stay closed. Equally arbitrary and complex would be the definitions of goods which may be sold: a plug for a drill, used "in the construction, repair or decoration" of "the structure of the home", could be sold legitimately, but not a plug for a toaster. Books could be sold by a newsagent, but not a bookshop. Throughout, the scope for appeal and expensive litigation is enormous.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HOSKER,
Deputy Director,
Consumers' Association,
2 Marylebone Road, NW1.
December 6.

From Miss Nicole Lander

Sir, Sunday shopping is predominantly a women's issue. It's about their freedom to shop and their freedom to work — through choice.

Research by Stirling University shows the vast majority of Sunday shopworkers are women — 80 per cent. They work on Sunday because they choose to, often because they can leave their children with their partners and so have no child-care costs.

If MPs vote for the Keep Sunday Special and Retailers for Shops Act Reform option, 140,000 jobs will be lost. The only way to preserve jobs and to ensure that women have the right to choose how to live their lives is if the MPs vote on Wednesday for the "six-hour option".

Yours faithfully,
NICOLE LANDER
(National Coordinator),
National Association of
Sunday Shopworkers,
PO Box 3286, London SW11 1PE.
December 6.

From the Chairman of Sears plc and others

Sir, A lot has been written in these columns (letters, November 29, December 1) about the Sunday Trading Bill and its implications for our way of life but on one point there still seems to be confusion.

There is before MPs a straight choice between two options, not three. The so-called compromise solution, promoted by the Shopping Hours Reform Council, is no such thing. The impact of six hours of prime-time Sunday trading is, in both commercial and social terms, no different from total deregulation of the whole day. The effects of it, on small shops especially, will be equally devastating.

We support the Retailers for Shops Act Reform/Keep Sunday Special option. This allows many small shops and all DIY stores and garden centres to open every Sunday and all shops to open on the four Sundays before Christmas. It is the only option which balances the long-term needs of consumers with those of retailers, employees and the wider community.

Deregulation, on the other hand, will lead to the closure of thousands of small shops, the further decline of the high street, less consumer choice and higher prices.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY MAITLAND SMITH,
Chairman, Sears plc,
GRAEME BOWLER (Managing Director and Chief Executive, Kwik Save Group plc),
STUART HAMPSON (Chairman, John Lewis Partnership plc),
JOHN HOERNER
(Chief Executive, The Burton Group plc),
MORTON MIDDLEDITCH
(Assistant Managing Director, Spar Landmark Group),
DAVID SIEFF
(Director, Marks & Spencer plc),
DAVID SKINNER (Chief Executive, Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd),
MALCOLM WALKER
(Chairman, Iceland Frozen Foods plc),
c/o Sears plc, 40 Duke Street, W1.
December 7.

From the Director of the Association for the Conservation of Energy

Sir, In his anti-Sunday trading article, Stuart Hampson raises a new and extremely critical issue. He refers to the amount of extra energy consumption — and hence pollution — that seven-day trading might cause.

Some weeks back we enquired informally from the Department of the Environment what estimates it had made of the implications for carbon emissions from energy use which would flow from retail deregulation. We were told that no studies had been undertaken within government on this matter. Yet for some years now, government has been committed to evaluating the environmental impacts of all new legislation, as part of the move towards sustainability.

We subsequently drew up our own estimates from published sources of retail energy use (lighting, heating, etc). We have concluded that, were some 70 per cent of stores to open seven days a week, at least an extra 500,000 tonnes of carbon would be emitted in a year. On top of this figure would be the pollution resulting from extra traffic. Whilst there is no prima facie reason to believe that there would be a significant number of extra passenger journeys, there is likely to be an increase in freight journeys, particularly carrying perishables.

If MPs are to opt on Wednesday for an extension of opening hours, it is preferable that they do so in full knowledge of its implications for the environment.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW WARREN,
Director,
Association for the
Conservation of Energy,
9 Sherlock Mews, W1.
December 6.

From Mr R. E. Stubbs

Sir, Graham Searjeant's article on Sunday trading (December 6) was good but I would contest the "second incontestable argument ... that deregulation should increase economic efficiency by spreading overheads over seven days".

Surely if you take the premise that no one will grow an additional stomach and so create an extra demand for food then the supermarkets, by opening on Sundays, will (as Mr Searjeant suggested) need to knock out the small shops to make the practice economically viable.

If all the supermarkets open on Sundays — and those which do have sufficient principles not to break the law at present have said that they may have to join in to protect their share of the market — then all short-term gains will be nullified.

The supermarkets will not want to make a dent in their profits, so the only alternative will be price rises.

Extra opening hours will also call for additional police, traffic wardens, public transport, refuse collectors, and trading standards and environmental health officers.

Yours sincerely,
RON STUBBS,
33 Silverdale, Maidstone, Kent.
December 6.

From Mr Colin Henderson-Begg

Sir, I sincerely hope that all Scottish MPs will demonstrate their political maturity by voting for complete deregulation of shopping hours on Wednesday in order to bring England and Wales into line with Scotland. If they cannot bring themselves to do so, surely they should abstain from voting altogether.

Yours sincerely,
COLIN HENDERSON-BEGG,
71 Cowen Close,
Crewkerne, Somerset.
December 6.

Business letters, page 27

Winged creatures

From Mr Alexander Franklin

Sir, I recently saw the 15th-century painting of *The Annunciation*, which you used in support of Enoch Powell's article, "Angels from the realms of glory" (Weekend, November 27), hanging in the church of Ste Marie Madeleine, Aix-en-Provence.

The painting shows the Archangel Gabriel with owl wings; there are carvings of bats above his head; the beams emanating from God pass the figure of an ape on their way to the Virgin. It has been suggested, therefore, that the picture had connections with a diabolical cult.

Whether or not this is true, your use of it at the start of Advent, "to celebrate the biblical role of Gabriel and his heavenly colleagues", seems odd.

Yours faithfully,
ALEXANDER FRANKLIN,
23 Abinger Place, Lewes, East Sussex.

Rate for the job

From Miss Christine Little

Sir, I know of no temporary help agency that would consider paying a skilled or even an unskilled worker £1.50 an hour (Mr F. M. M. Steiner's letter, November 30).

We expect the staffing industry to treat temporary workers with the dignity they deserve. Temporary work offers important flexibility and mobility and in many cases temporary jobs lead to long-term commitments. That, coupled with the very important training that many temporary help agencies are able to offer, is helping to get people off the unemployment register.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINE LITTLE
(Chief Executive),
The Federation of Recruitment
and Employment Services Ltd,
36-38 Mortimer Street, W1.

Judgment on Levitt

From Mr Charles Young

Sir, Whilst I am in no way condoning the leniency of the sentence passed on Mr Roger Levitt (report, November 27; letters, December 2, 3), I was astounded to read that the judge's criticism of the professional conduct of the defending counsel, Mr Jonathan Goldberg, QC, was made public (report, December 3).

By accusing Mr Goldberg of "gravely misrepresenting the true facts" about the way in which Mr Levitt came by his funds, is Mr Justice Laws not taking on the role of jury as well as judge? Mr Levitt's guilt or innocence on this matter, as well as all others except the single charge to which he pleaded guilty, was never proven.

Surely it was up to the prosecution alone to refute statements made to the jury about the sources of Mr Levitt's funds. As the jury were never called upon to decide in this case, is this not all a smokescreen to obscure the fact that it was the judge who had the sole power of sentencing, and it is the sentence alone that is now in the public arena?

That the defence had "a result" shows yet again that the Serious Fraud Office had rings run around it. That they and the judge should now be involved in damage limitation speaks volumes.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES YOUNG,
79 Gayville Road, SW11.
December 3.

From Mr V. H. Black

Sir, Mrs Huhne and Mrs Marmot comment (letter, December 2) on the apparent discrepancies between the sentence passed on Mr Roger Levitt and those on some DSS fraud defendants. Surely, as magistrates, they must be aware that the essence of British justice is that, with maximum limits, sentences are based on all the factors in individual cases.

In the ten years that I was a magistrate, much less discussion took place on whether a defendant was guilty, as that was generally obvious or uncontested, than on assessing the appropriate sentence.

Yours faithfully,
V. H. BLACK,
Lower Farm House,
Coln Rogers, Gloucestershire.
December 2.

Decline and fall

From Professor Maxwell Hutchinson

Sir, So the arts in England are to be cut by £3.2 million next year (Budget report, December 1) — as Lord Palumbo put it, "a national disgrace".

Your report also says that Peter Brooke, the National Heritage Secretary, will be making around £10 million available to restore the graciously decaying Albert Memorial in London.

While our distinguished orchestras, theatre companies and artists of many persuasions struggle for survival, we should let the good Prince Consort's cenotaph, badly built as it was, sink into the dust that awaits any worthy memorial, from pyramid to humble headstone.

Down with the scaffolding and let the ravages of time take their natural course.

Albert's true memorial was the Crystal Palace — the launching pad for the essential structure of Modernism, not a kitsch collection of terracotta brick and iron.

With regards,
MAXWELL HUTCHINSON
(President, Royal Institute of
British Architects, 1989-91),
The Hutchinson Studio,
15 Stukeley Street, WC2.
December 2.

Wartime bombing

From Mr Geoffrey Wheatcroft

Sir, Your obituary of Air Marshal Sir Harry Burton (December 1) describes the first air raids of the war, when "Bomber Command did its best to comply with the idiotic rules of engagement laid down by the Chamberlain War Cabinet, i.e., not to release bombs over enemy territory if they risked 'damaging private property' or endangering civilian life".

Those rules were soon abandoned. Bomber Command went on to destroy many of the most beautiful cities in Europe, and to kill 600,000 civilians, 100,000 of them children. "Sentimental" or "insufficiently ruthless" rules, perhaps; but is "idiotic" really the word?

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY WHEATCROFT,
The Coach House, Crowe Hall,
Widcombe, Bath, Avon.

Pass along, please

From Mr Tim Cecil

Sir, Mr Andrew Murray, who laments the glut of trainee solicitors (letter, December 3), may like to know that good bus drivers are in demand.

Amongst other rewards, driving a bus offers an experience that can be invaluable to those who might otherwise go straight from gleaming spires to ivory towers. Applications may be addressed to the undersigned.

Yours faithfully
TIM CECIL
(Managing Director),
Buffalo Travel,
Enterprise Way, Flitwick,
Bedfordshire.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 7: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Earl of Airlie KT (Lord Chamberlain) had an audience of Her Majesty and presented an Address from the House of Lords, to which The Queen was graciously pleased to make reply.

The Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty this evening.

The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief, later honoured The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys) with her presence at the Regimental Dinner at St James's Palace and was received by the Colonel (Major General Charles Ramsay).

The Lady Susan Hussey, the Rt Hon Sir Robert Fellowes and Lieutenant Colonel Malcolm Ross were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Admiral of the Fleet, this morning addressed the Royal College of Defence Studies, Belgrave Square, London SW1.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2. Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by General Sir Brian Kenny at the Memorial Service for Colonel George Kidston-Montgomerie of Southannan which was held in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London SW3, this afternoon.

The Lady Susan Hussey has succeeded Mrs John Dugdale as Lady in Waiting to Her Majesty.

December 7: The Princess Royal, Patron, the Butler Trust, this morning visited HM Prison Swansea, 200 Oystermouth Road, Swansea, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for West Glamorgan (Lieutenant Colonel Sir Michael Llewellyn, Bt).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, this afternoon opened Barry Citizens Advice Bureau, 119 Broad Street, Barry, and was received by Mr John Cory (Vice Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan).

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this evening attended the Festival of Trees Gala Dinner, National History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7. The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
December 7: The Lady Margaret Colville has succeeded Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 7: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning received the Secretary of the Duchy of Cornwall (Mr John James).

His Royal Highness this afternoon attended a Luncheon with the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (the Rt Hon Douglas Hurd MP) at 1 Carlton Gardens, London SW1.

The Prince of Wales later chaired a Council Meeting of The Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, 14-15 Gloucester Gate, Regent's Park, London NW1.

Mr Stephen Lamport was in attendance.

His Royal Highness this evening gave a Reception to mark the launch of the Roof of Americas Expedition at the Officers' Mess, Wellington Barracks, London SW1. Commander Robert Fraser RN was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 7: The Duke of Gloucester was received as an Honorary Freeman by the Worshipful Company of Grocers at a Court Luncheon at Grocers' Hall, Princes Street, London EC2.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Honorary Freeman, the Worshipful Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers, was present this evening at the Tercentenary Banquet at Guildhall, London EC2.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 7: The Duchess of Kent this morning arrived at London Gatwick from the Republic of the Seychelles. Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, this evening attended the Regimental Dinner of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys) at St James's Palace. Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
December 7: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, this evening presented the Barclays Youth Action Awards at a Reception held in aid of Youth Clubs UK at the Mansion House, London EC4.

Her Royal Highness was received by the Right Hon the Lord Mayor (Alderman Paul Newall).

Mrs Peter Afia was in attendance.

The Queen has appointed Lord Jenkins of Hillhead and Mr Lucian Freud, CH, to be members of the Order of Merit.

MARTIN KEENE



The actress Patricia Routledge holds the insignia of OBE which was presented to her by the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday. Miss Routledge, who stars as the supersnob Hyacinth Bucket in the television comedy *Keeping Up Appearances*, said: "It is a very great honour for my profession. I take it on behalf of all people who work in the arts." Lieutenant Colonel Bob Stewart, who became a national hero as head of the Cheshire Regiment in Bosnia, received the DSO. The polar explorers Sir Ranulph Fiennes and Dr Michael Stroud, who were also made OBEs, said that despite their reported rift they had not ruled out another joint expedition. The Queen asked about their health after a 1,350-mile Antarctic journey which ended with them said to be "more dead than alive" and praised their achievement.

Memorial services

Les Dawson
A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Les Dawson will be held in Westminster Abbey at noon on Thursday, February 24, 1994. Those wishing to attend are asked to apply for tickets, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, by not later than February 3, to: The Assistant Receiver General (Protocol), Room 24, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, London SW1P 3PA. Tickets will be posted on February 10. Admission to the Service will be by ticket only. All are welcome to apply.

Miss Margaret Boyd
A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Miss Margaret Boyd, OBE, will be held in the Chapel of Wycombe Abbey School on Sunday, January 23, 1994, at 2.15pm. Tea will be held in school afterwards. Would all those intending to join in the service please contact the Head Mistress's Secretary at the School (telephone 0494 520381).

Aidan and Virginia Crawley
A memorial service for Aidan and Virginia Crawley will be held in St Michael's Chester Square, on Thursday, February 10, at noon.

Birthdays today

Sir Ralph Carr-Ellison, Lord Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear, 68; Mr Julian Critchley, MP, 63; Professor Sir Roger Elliott, physicist, 65; Mr Lucian Freud, OM, CH, painter, 71; Mr James Galway, flute player, 54; Sir de Villiers Graaff, former South African politician, 80; Sir David Hay, cardiologist, and his twin brother Sir Hamish Hay, former mayor of Christchurch, New Zealand, 66; Mr Geoff Hurst, footballer, 52; Sir Peter Levene, chairman, Canary Wharf, 52; Mr Terry McDermott, footballer, 42; Mr Justice Jonathan Parker, 56; Lord Prys-Davies, 70; Mr D.J. Verey, chairman, Lazard Brothers, 43; Mr Lynn Wilson, chairman, Wilson (Connolly) Holdings, 54.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Horace, Quintus Horatius Flaccus, Roman poet, Venusia, Southern Italy, 65 BC; Mary Queen of Scots, reigned 1542-67, Linlithgow, 1542; Eli Whitney, pioneer of the cotton gin, Westborough, Massachusetts, 1765; Georges Feydeau, dramatist, Paris, 1862; Jean Sibelius, composer, Hameenlinn, Finland, 1865; James Thurber, humorous writer, Columbus, Ohio, 1894.

DEATHS: John Pym, leader of the opposition to King Charles I, London, 1643; Thomas de Quincey, writer, Edinburgh, 1859; Simon Marks, Baron Marks of Broughton, retail trade leader, London, 1964; John Lennon, singer and songwriter, shot, Manhattan, 1980.

Dinners

Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers
The Duchess of Gloucester, Honorary Freeman of the Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers, attended a dinner held last night at Guildhall to mark the tercentenary of the granting of the company's charter. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, were present. The Master, Mr Geoffrey B. Perkins, presided. The Lord Mayor, Sir Peter Yarranton and Sir David Mitchell, MP, also spoke.

The Speaker
The Speaker held a dinner last night at Speaker's House in honour of a parliamentary delegation from the Ukraine, led by Mr Ivan S. Plyusch, Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada. The Ambassador of Ukraine attended. Among others present were:
Mr Richard Alexander, MP, Mr David Alton, MP, Mr Clive Betts, MP, Mr Tom Cox, MP, Mr Andrew Faulds, MP, Mr Paul Flynn, MP, Dame Janet Fookes, MP, Mr George Foulkes, MP, Mr Neil Gerrard, MP, Mr Harry Greenway, MP, Mr Oliver Heald, MP, Mr John Horam, MP, Lord Hylton, Mr Ron Leighton, MP, Mr Michael Shersby, MP, Sir Trevor Skeet, MP, Mr Gary Waller, MP, Mr John Ward, MP, Mr David Wilshire, MP, Professor Mikhailo Bliousov, Canon Donald Gray, Miss Amanda Hay, Mr David Ramsay, Mr James Sharp and Mr Nicolas Bevan.

Weavers' Company
Mr G.E.L. Yeandle, Upper Bailiff of the Weavers' Company, presided at a livery dinner held last night at Vintners' Hall. Judge Gerald Coombe was the principal guest and speaker. Dr R.B Ingle, Upper Warden, also spoke.

Company of Tin Plate Workers alias Wire Workers
Mr Robert G. Vincent, Master of the Company of Tin Plate Workers alias Wire Workers, assisted by Mr Kenneth Reed and Mr Bryan Marsh Wardens, presided at a court dinner held last night at Stationers' Hall. Professor Hugh Stephenson was the guest speaker.

"Not Forgotten" Association
The General Committee of the "Not Forgotten" Association held a dinner last night at the Victory Services Club for disabled ex-service guests. Major-General Sir Christopher Airy, chairman, presided.

Service dinner

The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards
The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, was present at a regimental dinner held last night at St James's Palace. King Constantine of The Hellenes and Field Marshal the Duke of Kent attended. Major-General Charles Ramsay, Colonel of the Regiment, presided. Field Marshal Sir John Stanier, president of the regimental council, was also present.

Election

Stephen Williamson, QC, has been elected to succeed Brian Walsh, QC, as Leader of the North Eastern Circuit from January 1, 1994.

Dealer cut old master in half

HALF a picture may turn out to be one of the most intriguing lots in a £1.8 million sale of contents from Woolton House, a regency mansion near Newbury, Berkshire (John Shaw writes).

It belonged to the late Mrs Vera Hue-Williams, a penniless Russian émigrée who married four times and became a millionaire racehorse owner and breeder.

The other half is in the Hermitage Museum of St Petersburg. It shows herdsmen resting under a tree and is by Abraham Bloemart (1565-1651), a well known Dutch old master.

The painting was done about 1605 and bought by a Berlin dealer in Amsterdam in July 1756. He cut it in half, thinking the two halves would sell more readily and they were shipped to St Petersburg in 1763. Later they became separated before the right half was returned to the Hermitage in 1919.

The connection was spotted by Richard Charlton-Jones of Sotheby's as the firm prepared for a two-day house sale on the premises which ended last night. The painting, which hung in the library, is expected to make about £30,000 in the firm's old master auction in Bond Street today.

How Mrs Hue-Williams acquired her half is a mystery. She was born in Kiev, fled penniless with her mother from the advancing Bolshevik revolution in 1917, and settled in England where she married four times and became a racehorse owner and breeder.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.J. Grose and The Hon Mrs J. Cowie
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of the late Brigadier James Grose and of Mrs Grose, of Bicknoller, Somerset, and Juliana, widow of Nigel Cowie and daughter of Rosemary Viscountess Brookeborough, of Ashbrooke, Brookeborough, Northern Ireland.

Mr R. Hanka and Miss V.L. Edwards
The engagement is announced between Robert, only son of Dr and Mrs R. Hanka, of Great Shelford, Cambridge, and Vanessa Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs D.M. Edwards, of Chichester, West Sussex, and Hong Kong.

Mr R. Hiscox and Miss S.C.H. Norcliffe
The engagement is announced between Renshaw, eldest son of Mr Robert Hiscox and Mrs Robert Doxford, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Norcliffe.

Mr P.M. O'Carroll and Miss S.V.C. Le Neve Foster
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs J. O'Carroll, of Tralee, Co Kerry, and Vanessa, younger daughter of the late Mr Clive Le Neve Foster and of Mrs Le Neve Foster, of Latimer, Buckinghamshire.

Mr B.P. Oughton and Miss A.M. Turberfield
The engagement is announced between Ben Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Oughton, of Burwell, Cambridge, and Alison Mary, daughter of Mr Alan Turberfield, CBE, and Mrs Gillian Turberfield, of Oxford.

Mr C.N. Caple and Miss S. Roberts
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Brian Caple, of Bristol, and Sandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Roberts, of Pembroke.

Mr P.A. Foulds and Miss J.M. Buxton
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs M.A. Foulds, of Radcliffe-on-Trent, Nottingham, and Joanna, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.H.R. Buxton, of Ragdale, Leicestershire.

Mr T.S.J. Regan and Miss M.E. Keech
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Terry and Shirley Regan, of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, and Megan, youngest daughter of Yvonne and Ray Keech, of Ely, Cambridgeshire.

Marriage

Mr N.E. Evans-Lombe and Miss G.F. Spackman
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 4, at St Peter's Church, Parham, of Mr Nicholas Evans-Lombe, son of Sir Edward and Lady Evans-Lombe, of Martingford, Norfolk, to Miss Gabrielle Spackman, daughter of Colonel and Mrs Anthony Spackman, of Watersfield, West Sussex. The Rev Clive Jenkins officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Isla Harrap, Alexandra Newnham and Maude Smith. Mr James Learmond was best man.

A reception was held at Parham House.

Royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will attend a reception at the Naval Club at 6.30 to mark the 50th anniversary of the RNVR Officers' Association.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as National President of the Royal Air Forces Association, will attend a meeting of the central council and a luncheon at the RAF Club at 11.30; and as patron, will attend the winter meeting of the British Association of Plastic Surgeons at the Royal College of Surgeons at 3.00.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother will dine with the benchers at Middle Temple at 7.45.

The Prince of Wales, as President of The Prince's Trust, will open the Gateway Partners foyer project at 66 Lancaster Street, SE1, at 10.20; will attend a reception at Old Battersea House, 30 Vicarage Crescent, at noon in aid of the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice and will hold a reception for winners of The Prince of Wales's Award for Rural Crafts and Skills at St James's Palace: 6.00.

The Princess Royal, as President of the British Olympic Association, will attend the National Olympic Committee meeting at the Queens Club at 10.50; and, as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will attend a council meeting at the Royal Thames Yacht Club at 4.10.

Princess Margaret, as President of the Girl Guides Association, will hold a reception for Queen's Guides at Kensington Palace at 5.00.

The Duke of Gloucester will present the British Council of Shopping Centres 1993 awards at a dinner at the London Hilton on Park Lane at 7.30.

The Duke of Kent, as president, will attend the Business and Technology Education Council's student of the year medal award ceremony at the Institute of Civil Engineers at 1.55.

The Duchess of Kent, as patron, will attend the "Not Forgotten" Association's Christmas party at the Royal Mews at 3.00.

Princess Alexandra, as chancellor, will preside at ceremonies for the conferment of degrees and diplomas and will open the George Fox teaching and residential building at Lancaster University at 11.40.

School news

Wycombe Abbey School
Sixth Form Scholarships (tenable from September 1994)
Major Scholarships: Cledic Chan, Wycombe Abbey School; Katherine Mann, Wycombe Abbey School.
Scholarships: Katherine Halkerston, Wycombe Abbey School; Miriam Heard, Wycombe Abbey School; Florence Winterburn, The Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls, London W3.
Minor Scholarships: Sarah Foster, Croydon High School for Girls; Jessica Mance, Wycombe Abbey School; Mary Welsfers, Westholme School, Blackburn; Morenike Williams, Wycombe Abbey School.
Exhibition for Music: Catharine Russell, Wycombe Abbey School.
Exhibition for Art: Georgina Slater, Wycombe Abbey School.
Internal Sixth Form Scholarships (tenable from September 1993) have been awarded to: Victoria Stevens (Fisher Scholarship) and Vera Sistenich (Flux Dundas Scholarship).

Luncheon

HM Government
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Defence, was host yesterday at a luncheon held at Admiralty House in honour of Mr Imrich Andrejcak, Minister for Defence of the Slovak Republic.

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000
FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

The City did not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gave it light and its light was the Lamb.
Revelation 21:23 (REB)

BIRTHS

BALDWIN - On December 6th, to Elizabeth (née Brown) and David, a son, Andrew Samuel, a brother for Matthew and Joanna.

BILLSON - On 5th December, to Karen and Richard, a son, Henry Ignatius Lisle.

DAWKINS - On December 7th at Aiku Hospital, Tokyo, to Jeannie (née Elliot) and William, a son, Ivo James Ransford, a brother to Laura, Sophia and Lucinda.

DOYLE - On November 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Susan (née Milburn-Pyle) and Gavin, a beautiful daughter, Katharine.

FINEGOLD - On 6th December 1993, to Juliet (née Marber) and Warren, a daughter, Rachel Celia.

LOPEZ - On 22nd November, to Diana (née Black) and Paul, a daughter, Miranda Annabelle Lucy. A sister for Antonia.

OPPERMAN - On 2nd December 1993, to Charlotte (née Robson) and Peter, a son, Jack.

WALKER - On December 6th, to Emma (née Handfield-Jones) and David, a daughter.

WRIGHT - On 2nd December, to Geraldine (née Campbell) and David, a daughter, Georgina Alice.

MARRIAGES

ALDAMA:DUNKERLY - The marriage took place on Saturday at The Church of The Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, of Mr Carlos Aldama of Madrid and Miss Alexia Dunkerly, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Dunkerly. Mass was celebrated by Dom Edward Corbould. The honeymoon is being spent in Guatemala.

DEATHS

CHIVERALL - Major John Geoffrey of Bathampton, Bath, peacefully in hospital on December 4th 1993 aged 77 years. Funeral Service at St Nicholas Church, Bathampton, Bath, on Monday December 13th at 12 noon. Flowers, or donations if desired for St Martin's Hospital League of Friends may be sent to E. Hooper & Son, 13 St James Parade, Bath BA1 1UL.

CLAYDEN - Richard Ludlow, on 6th December very suddenly at home. Much loved husband of Celia and fond stepfather of Jemima. Cremation at West London Crematorium, Kensal Green, at 2.15 pm on Thursday 9th December.

COBB - On 5th December, suddenly and peacefully in hospital. Martin Youatt. Private cremation. Donations in memory to Save the Children Fund c/o W Austin & Sons, Letchmore Green, Stevenage SG1 3HX.

COYNE - On December 5th in the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, Jim, husband of Juliet, suddenly after a long illness. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium on Friday 10th December at 4.15 pm.

DAVIES - George of Welwyn, Herts., on 3rd December 1993 peacefully at the Royal Masonic Hospital. Funeral Service will take place on Tuesday 14th December at Welwyn Evangelical Church at 12 noon, followed by cremation at West Herts Crematorium (Garston). Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to Royal Masonic Hospital and all enquiries to Davies Funeral Services, 28 High Street, Milford-on-Sea, Hants., tel: (0590) 644664.

DORMAN - Monica, on December 7th at home with her family, after a long brave struggle with ill-health. Beloved wife of the late Maurice, loving and treasured mother to John, Joanna, Elisabeth and Sibella and a darling 'Grandy D' to her nine grandchildren. Funeral Service at St Michael's Church, West Overton, at 2.30 pm on Monday 13th December.

DOUGLAS - Suddenly on 4th December 1993 at Galashiels, James W.E.H. Sholto Douglas, ecologist and author. Beloved husband of Desiree and a much loved father.

EVANS - On 1st December Douglas Frank Randolph, peacefully at Chelsfield Park Hospital aged 86 years. A most caring man, loved by his daughter Elizabeth, his late wife Barbara, his sisters Lilian and Shirley and his grandchildren Joshua and Mwana. He was held in affection and high esteem by all who knew him. A private cremation service will be held on the 9th December. A Memorial Service will be held in the New Year.

GAGE - On 5th December, Pamela Kathleen, aged 65. Wife of Bill and mother of Michael and John. Funeral Service at Eastcote Methodist Church, Field End Road, Eastcote, on Friday 10th December at 3 pm followed by interment in Horning Parish Church at a later date. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to Mount Vernon Scanner Appeal c/o T.A. Ellement and Son Ltd., 21 Bridge Street, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 3HR.

GLOGAN - Peacefully at Tayside Nursing Home, Perth, on Sunday 5th December 1993, Lesley (née Brown), daughter of the late Peter Sinclair Brown. Beloved wife of the late Peter Glogan, a dearly loved mother of Moyra, Timothy and Jeremy and dear grandmother of Alexander, Harriet and Evelina. Service to be held in Strang & McLagan/JC Williamson Funeral Home, Main Street, Bridgend, Perth, Scotland on Wednesday 8th December at 12.30 pm. A Service will be held in the London Road Congregational Church, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex, on Monday 13th December at 11.30 am. Cortège arriving at The Ridge Cemetery, Hastings at 12.30 pm.

GORDON - On December 5th 1993 in Wexham Park Hospital, Marion Fleming (née Gairdner) aged 92. Wife of the late Vyner R. Gordon. Much loved mother of Gavin and Colin and a loving and proud grandmother. Funeral Service at 11 am on Monday 13th December at United Reformed Church, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

GREENING - On December 1st, in the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, Ann (née Dodds) of 21 Caversham Street, London SW3; widow of John and stepmother of Christopher and Anthony. Cremation will take place at 3 pm on Friday December 17th at Putney Vale Crematorium, Stag Lane, London SW15. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to the Marie Curie Foundation or Crisis at Christmas.

GUPPY - Peacefully at home in Henley-on-Thames, on December 7th 1993, Havard John O.B.E. aged 80 years, in his 54th year of marriage. Beloved husband of Kasia and father of Fenda and Ronnie. Funeral Service at Reading Crematorium, Caversham, at 11.45 am Tuesday December 14th. Flowers welcome to Tomalin & Son, Henley-on-Thames.

HOOS - On December 4th 1993, peacefully at home, Dorothea Hoos, widow of Marten Hoos and much loved mother of Jane. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, West Stour, Dorset, on Wednesday December 15th at 12.30 pm followed by private cremation. Cut flowers or donations for the Sick Children's Trust may be sent to Bracher Brothers, Gillingham, Dorset SP8 4QL, tel: (0747) 822494.

HUNTER - On 4th December 1993, the Revd. Robert Clifford Hunter, Hon.C.F., beloved husband of Margaret and dearest father of Robin. Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's Church, Motcombe, on Tuesday December 14th 1993 at 2.30 pm. Donations if desired to St Mary's Church, Motcombe or The South & West Wilts Family Support Service may be sent to G.E. Johnson & Son (Funeral Directors), 41/43 High Street, Shaftesbury, Dorset.

JOLLANDS - On December 4th, David, dearly loved husband of Bridget and devoted father of Tim, Simon, Giles and Philippa, peacefully at King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst. Private cremation followed by Thanksgiving Service at St Michael's, Amberley, West Sussex, at 2.30 pm on Monday 13th December. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to West Sussex Macmillan Service, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 0BL.

McNEILL - On 6th December 1993 at home in Oxford, Joseph Cuthbert MA LDS. Much loved husband of Gertrude, father of Martin, Josephine and Thomas and grandfather. The funeral service will take place in St John's Chapel, Oxford Crematorium, at 11 am on Monday 13th December. Family flowers only please. Enquiries to Reeves and Pain, 288 Abingdon Road, Oxford. (0865) 242629.

O'NEILL - Liam Francis. Beloved husband of Barbara, died on 2nd December, aged 69.

PEERLESS - On December 2nd, aged 89, Percy George. Greatly loved father of Jennifer, Trevor (deceased) and Clive. Grandfather of Charles, Emma, Crispin, Bart and Clare and great-grandfather of Edward and Oenone Scott. Private funeral at Croydon Crematorium 12 noon Monday 13th December. Family flowers only, donations if desired to any Hospice via W.A. Truelove & Son Ltd., 109 Stafford Road, Wallington, Surrey, tel: (081) 647-1032.

PERRY - Marjorie, much loved wife of Peter, died peacefully at home in Dulwich on 6th December. Funeral at Beckenham Crematorium at noon 16th December. Flowers from family only. Donations if desired to Dr. J. Dobbs, Combined Oncology Fund, King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5.

RAPHAEL - Elizabeth, on December 5th, after a long illness courageously borne. Beloved wife of Arnold and mother of Andrew and Fiona Young, stepmother of Caroline, Melissa and Nicholas and a much loved grandmother. Funeral at Stoke St Gregory Church, Somerset, December 13th at 11 o'clock. Family flowers only. Donations may be sent if wished to the African Medical and Research Foundation, 11 Waterloo Street, Clifton, Bristol BS8 4BT. Memorial Services will be held in London and Nairobi at a later date.

RELPH - Mercia, actress, Mercia Swinburne, widow of actor George Relph, died December 6th 1993, at Vicarage Gate Nursing Home, aged 93. Islington Crematorium, High Road, East Finchley, Friday December 10th at 3 pm.

RIMMER - (née Unsworth) Agnes Beryl died peacefully at home, 31 Sidney Road, Rugby, on December 6th. Much loved wife of Bernard and loving mother of David, Ruth, Richard, Marie-Christine, Martin, Anthony and Helen and their families.

RYBOT - Doris Almon (née Ponsonby), widow of Lt. Col. F.J.C. Rybot, suddenly on 2nd December. Funeral at St Stephen's Church, Kingston Lacey, at 12 noon on Monday 13th December. Family flowers only.

SHAW - Suddenly but peacefully on Sunday 5th December 1993, Joan Mary, beloved wife of Godfrey, mother of David, Anne, Richard, Sara and Jane and "Goggy" to her 12 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Requiem Mass at St Edward's Church, Sutton Park, near Guildford, Surrey, at 11 am on Monday 13th December. Family flowers only please.

SINGH - On 4th December 1993 at Cynthia Spencer House, Northampton, Prabhu aged 56 years, of Oundle (and until recently Huddersfield). Much loved father of Rachel, Lucy and Rebecca, a beloved grandfather and a dear friend to many. A Quaker meeting for worship will be held at The Old Drill Hall, Benefield Road, Oundle, on Friday 10th December at 2pm, followed by cremation at the E.H. Newman Chapel of Kettering Crematorium at 3.45pm. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations may be given to be divided between The MacMillan Nurses, The Musician's Benevolent Fund and The Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o Crowsons Funeral Directors, Barnwell, near Oundle, Peterborough. Enquiries to tel: (0832) 272269.

SMALLPEICE - Peacefully on December 4th, H.F. (Frank) of Cromer, Norfolk. Loving and beloved husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather. Funeral Service at St Faith's Crematorium, Norwich, on Thursday December 9th at 1 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Papworth Hospital c/o Peter Taylor Funeral Services, 85 Unthank Road, Norwich.

STONE - On 5th December 1993, peacefully in hospital, Eric Henry aged 72 years. Much loved husband of Meg, dearly loved father of Sally and William and grandfather of Rosie. Funeral Service at Compton Church on Friday December 10th at 2 pm.

TRIPP - On December 7th, peacefully in his sleep Donald Walter Howard, dearly loved husband of Joyce. Funeral Mass on Friday 10th December at Sacred Heart R.C. Church Hove at 9.15 am. No letters or flowers. Donations if desired to the House of Hospitality, Holy Cross Priory, Heathfield, East Sussex, TN21 0TS.

TROUNSON - On 5th December 1993, suddenly in hospital after a short illness, Edward James (Jim) aged 61. Beloved husband of Diana, much loved and loving father of Fiona, Philip and Richard. Dearest son of Peggy Longrigg, recent grandfather and dear brother. Funeral Service at 2pm on Tuesday December 14th at St Aldhelm's, Bishopstrow. Family and close friends only please. Thanksgiving Service at The Minster, Warminster, on Saturday January 15th at 2pm. No flowers please, but donations if wished to the MacMillan Nursing Service (Dorothy House) c/o F. Curtis and Son, 11 Portway, Warminster, Wilts.

VISCOUNT SIMON - On December 5th after a long illness. Loved by all who knew him. Private cremation.

WALEY - Stephen Gerald, at home after a long illness on December 5th 1993, aged 71 years. Much loved husband, father and grandfather. Memorial Service to be announced.

WHYTE - Brysson B. OBE, on 27th November, aged 72, in Cambridge. One-time Director of Nurse Education, Guy's Hospital. The funeral has taken place.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BURSTIN - Motel died December 8th 1983. His wisdom and love are sadly missed.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

BATCHELOR, MAUD ISABEL BATCHELOR SPINSTER late of Epsom, Surrey died there on 19 February 1988 (Estate about £50,5000).

CAMPBELL formerly ROWLAND nee TAYLOR, KATHRYN BARBARA CAMPBELL formerly KATHLEEN MAY ROWLAND nee TAYLOR WIDOW late of Chiswick, London W4 died at Notting Hill, London W11 on 18 April 1992 (Estate about £64,000).

CHAMBERS, AUDREY MAUD CHAMBERS SPINSTER late of Stotfold, Hertfordshire died there on 12 October 1993 (Estate about £110,000).

CONNELL nee DOYLE, ROSE CONNELL otherwise ROSE MARY CONNELL nee DOYLE WIDOW late of Dorking, Surrey died there on 30 December 1991 (Estate about £10,000).

DENNEHY, JOHN DENNEHY late of Goodmayes, Essex died at Seven Kings, Essex on 25 May 1993 (Estate about £6,000).

ECCLESTON, MARGARET ANN ECCLESTON SPINSTER late of Brighton, East Sussex died at Hove, East Sussex on 14 April 1992 (Estate about £7,600).

GIBSON otherwise PRIEST, GEORGE WILLIAM GIBSON otherwise GEORGE WILLIAM PRIEST late of York died there on or about 8 July 1993 (Estate about £20,000).

HONEKER, FREDERICK CHARLES HONEKER otherwise FREDERICK HONEKER late of Benfleet, Essex died at Rochford, Essex on 21 May 1993 (Estate about £30,000).

JOHNSON, GORDON LEONARD JOHNSON late of Bridlington, Humberside died there on April 14 1991 (Estate about £6,000).

LINKLATER, JOSEPH ERNEST LINKLATER late of Newton Abbot, Devon died there on 25 July 1993 (Estate about £35,000).

MANN nee BRANDWOOD, MAY MANN nee BRANDWOOD WIDOW late of Peacehaven, East Sussex died there on 26 November 1992 (Estate about £80,000).

MOSS nee WAKELING, AMY FLORENCE MOSS nee WAKELING WIDOW late of Chelmsford, Essex died there on 6 January 1993 (Estate about £6,000).

REID, HARRY STANLEY REID otherwise HENRY STANLEY REID late of WIMBLEDON, LONDON SW19 died Kingston-Upon-Thames, Surrey on April 8 1993 (Estate about £18,000).

SPRUGEVICS, FRICIS SPRUGEVICS late of Leeds, West Yorkshire died there on 7 May 1992 (Estate about £80,000).

STROUD, GWENDOLINE MURIEL STROUD SPINSTER late of Cardiff, South Glamorgan died there on 24 March 1993 (Estate about £6,000).

TUOHY, JOSEPH MARY GERRARD TUOHY otherwise JOSEPH TUOHY late of Anerley, London SE20 died at Bromley, Kent on 24 July 1992 (Estate about £7,200).

WILLIAMS, REGINALD JOSEPH HENRY WILLIAMS late of Birmingham, West Midlands died there on 3 November 1992 (Estate about £12,000).
The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (BV), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

BANGLE, DEREK MALCOLM BANGLE late of Ealing, London W5 died there on 20 August 1992 (Estate about £14,000).
Margaret Grace Gurpey, Ellen Sarah Panvert and the kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (BV), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 The Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

Estate of Raymond Alfred GIBBONS late of Tandara Nursing Home Jarrah Road Bentley in the State of Western Australia. Would Dorothy May WALLIS (born 11th July 1904) who is the daughter of Thomas and Lucy Florence NEWMAN (nee WORSSELL) or anybody knowing of her whereabouts or anybody claiming through her contact the Public Trustee of 565 Hay Street Perth Western Australia 6000 within two months of date of publication of this advertisement quoting reference Number D 232245 TP4 and estate of Raymond Alfred GIBBONS.
Please note:- Dorothy M WALLIS was married and/or divorced from the following:-
1) John Rex FROUD (married 1924 - divorced 1936)
2) Raymond Alfred GIBBONS (Married 1940 - divorced unknown)
3) Thomas WALLIS (married 1937)

Estate of Ralph William OLIVER late of 3 Swan Road South Perth Country of Australia. Would any child of Bertha GRIMWOOD and/or William Taylor GRIMWOOD or any persons having an interest or claiming through their estate or any person knowing the whereabouts of any person with an interest in their estate please contact the Public Trustee at 565 Hay Street Perth Western Australia within two months from the date of publication of this advertisement quoting reference D 231593 TA3 and the Estate of Ralph William OLIVER.

Re: Estate of HAROLD BEAVER deceased. Would the father of HAROLD BEAVER (who was possibly born on 1st April 1903 in Blackpool, England but who may have been born in Canada or Australia on that or another date and whose mother may have been ELIZA WATERER) whose name may have been AMOS ATHERTON or any children or grandchildren of the father of HAROLD BEAVER (any of them may have an interest in his estate which is being administered by the Public Trustee) or any person claiming through any such person please send his claim to the Public Trustee of 565 Hay Street Perth in the State of Western Australia within 2 months from the date of publication of this advertisement quoting reference D226688 TC1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I would like to wish everyone a magical Xmas and New Year. Also a special thanks to Michael Goldhill for choosing the eight of clubs, regards Howard.

THE MACMILLAN NURSE APPEAL
FIGHTING CANCER WITH MORE THAN MEDICINE
When you leave a legacy to CRMF, you leave behind a living testament of care for people with cancer in the shape of Macmillan Nurses your money has helped to train. For more information about our Macmillan Nurse Appeal or for a copy of our specially produced leaflet, "Leave a Legacy of Hope" write to: CRMF, 15/19 Britten Street, London SW3 3TZ, or phone on 071-351 7811.
Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund

ON BEHALF OF 8 MILLION PEOPLE...
In the UK, 8 million people - of all ages - suffer from arthritis. If you decide to make a donation to charity in memory of a loved one, or in place of flowers, we ask you, respectfully, to remember us as we continue our search for a cure.
ARTHRITIS RESEARCH
The Arthritis & Rheumatism Council for Research, FREEPOST, Chesterfield S41 7BR A Registered Charity
Patron: HRH The Duchess of Kent. DTW1/TT/08/12/93
Fighting the Cause. Seeking the Cure.

هكذا من الأصل

OBITUARIES

FELIX HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY

Felix Houphouet-Boigny, President of the Ivory Coast since 1960, died yesterday aged 88. He was born at Yamoussoukro on October 18, 1905.



AN INCONGRUOUS cathedral, bigger than St Paul's and only slightly smaller than St Peter's, stands today in Yamoussoukro, the Ivory Coast capital — a doubtful monument to the wisdom of Felix Houphouet-Boigny, Africa's longest-serving head of state. A latter-day Versailles built, in Greco-Roman style with nearly 300 Doric columns, at the late President's birthplace 150 miles from Abidjan, the Basilica of Our Lady of Peace cost an estimated £150 million to construct at a time when the foreign debt of the Ivory Coast stood at £6 billion. It was blessed by the Pope on its completion in 1989 but was widely regarded as, perhaps, the Third World's most opulent folly and a poignant symbol of the decline in the judgment of the man once one of Africa's most respected and effective leaders.

Over half-a-century, Felix Houphouet-Boigny had emerged from being the *bête noire* of the French colonial administration in West Africa to become, first, the darling of the Palais-Bourbon, then the leader of the overseas territory with the closest and most rewarding links with France, eventually being known as *le vieux* and *le sage de Yamoussoukro*, the Grand Old Man of the francophone African and finally of Africa itself. For most of his rule, the Ivory Coast blossomed as Africa's most vibrant and prosperous state, admired in the West and on the African continent itself. Yet, by the end, Houphouet-Boigny's reputation was sadly tarnished by the eventual decline in the Ivory Coast's fortunes and the regime's rampant corruption.

For most of his long years in power he governed his five-million-strong West African state, comprised of more than 60 tribes, as a relatively benevolent dictator; and delighted in describing himself as a "premier-peasant". During that time, the Ivory Coast's cocoa and coffee crops were the largest in Africa.

In spite of the trappings of a one-party state Houphouet-Boigny basked in the glory of being an enlightened leader. In 1986, however, when the real prices of cocoa and coffee dropped by half, the Ivory Coast economy went into decline. And over the next five years, the elderly President procrastinated rather than enforcing austerity measures and failed to crackdown on spiralling corruption. In May 1990, following two months of unprecedented student-led demonstrations and widespread strikes, he was forced to bow to popular pressure and authorised the setting up of a multi-party democracy.

Felix Houphouet came of a prosperous and well connected Baoule family and was brought up as a Roman Catholic. He added Boigny to his name later — a dialect word meaning "ram" with the connotation of irresistible force. From local schools he went on to the medical school at Dakar which turned out *médecins africains* for French West Africa in three years. Armed with what was then the highest medical qualification open to an African, he returned to his own country in 1925 and practised medicine there for 15 years. He earned a reputation as a healer and later attributed his common touch to this daily contact with poor people and their problems.

Houphouet-Boigny gave up medicine in 1940 in order to look after the family lands. Four years later his experiences in farming led him to found the Syndicat Agricole Africain which organised agrarian grievances over forced labour and low prices with such popular success that he was soon afterwards elected as a deputy for the Ivory Coast in the French Assembly. The overseas deputies were in the habit of dividing their support between the various left-wing parties in the assembly according to their philosophies or the prospects of advantage which were offered.

Houphouet-Boigny allied himself at first with the Union Républicaine et Démocratique de la Résistance which was associated with the French Communist Party. He also played a big part in the foundation of the Rassemblement Démocratique Africain which, with communist support, quickly became the main instrument of nationalist activity in French tropical Africa.

French efforts to curb the activities of the RDA were met by organised strikes, demonstrations and boycotts and early in 1950 a warrant was issued for Houphouet-Boigny's arrest. Though protected by his immunity as a deputy he appeared to waver for a time between taking to the hills and coming to terms with the French authorities. In the end he publicly dissociated himself and his party from the communists both in the French Assembly and the Ivory Coast. It is unlikely that any difficult question of principle was involved. He was not a Communist by temperament or background. He was a Roman Catholic. He came from a chief's family rich in plantations. He was also a very pragmatic realist.

After switching his support and that of the seven RDA deputies to the Socialist Party in the French Assembly he became the first African to be offered a post in the French Cabinet. He remained a minister for the next three years and became a close friend of François Mitterrand and Guy Mollet, and he was later to become the trusted adviser of General de Gaulle.

He represented France at the United Nations and, as a minister in de Gaulle's government, he toured the French territories in Africa with the General to persuade them of the advantages of opting for self-government within the French Community rather than complete independence out in the cold.

He led his own country to vote decisively for the former in a referendum. When Léopold Senghor later managed to induce de Gaulle to allow the federation of Mali to become independent without losing the benefits of the French Community, Houphouet-Boigny, was understandably vexed at this signal change in French policy, and eventually followed suit.

Although his presidential powers were considerable and his party was the only one allowed, he went to some lengths to encourage dissidents among the students and trade unions to stand for election within his party framework, and in 1969 he staged a series of spectacular *états généraux* in which his opponents were permitted to express their grievances and disagreements. Despite these liberal gestures and an annual growth of 8 per cent in the country's economy, attempts to unseat and assassinate him were not lacking. He dealt with offenders in a manner calculated to discourage others — imprisoning or exiling them. He was faced with a paradox: to keep the country's economic momentum going he had to push ahead as quickly as possible with developing a trained and educated élite. Yet it was from within this élite that the dissenters flourished.

In placing economic development before all else, Houphouet-Boigny was backed all the way by successive French governments which saw him, rightly, as a man they could rely on. In the 20 years following independence the French population in the Ivory Coast trebled and 60 per cent of business was in foreign hands, mostly French. Abidjan, then the capital as well as the commercial centre, became the most modern and affluent city in black Africa, as well as the most expensive. Later Yamoussoukro, the village of his birth in the centre of the country was transformed into a showplace of modernity with elegant boulevards and impressive buildings.

President Houphouet-Boigny was an amiable, sophisticated man, as much at home in Paris, and in Geneva where he kept a house, as in West Africa. His critics complained that because of his flexibility he lacked the charisma of a national leader who had suffered poverty, exile and prison, and his long love affair with France rendered him suspect to those both in Africa and on the Left Bank who believed that bitter opposition was preferable to amiable and profitable co-operation. While this pragmatic philosophy left him free to join with other West African leaders like Senghor of Senegal and Dawda Jawara of the Gambia in seeking an accommodation with the South Africans, and in opposing the efforts of Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, to subvert established governments in Chad and other partially Muslim states, it did not prevent him taking a leading part in the work of the OAU and in making common cause with other non-aligned states in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

He hosted state visits from both President Giscard d'Estaing in 1958 and from President Mitterrand in 1982 with equal enthusiasm and savoir-faire and in 1962 paid a four-day visit to Britain.

In 1971 he shocked other African leaders by proposing a dialogue with the South African government, in spite of its apartheid practices, with a view to showing the Pretoria authorities that their policies were wrong. Undeterred by the criticism his approach attracted, four years later he entertained J. B. Vorster, the South African Prime Minister on a secret two-day visit to the Ivory Coast and in 1990 met Vorster's successor, P. W. Botha but made no apparent headway in enlightening the republic's leader on racial matters.

However, in April last year, after President de Klerk began dismantling the apartheid laws in South Africa, Houphouet-Boigny became the first African leader to accord the Pretoria government full democratic recognition. He also restored ties with Israel in 1985, a time when the Jewish state was viewed as a pariah by most of Africa.

Latterly he had spent long spells in cancer clinics in France and Switzerland, returning home for the last time on November 19.

Houphouet-Boigny refused to groom an heir, saying: "An African chief never names his successor."

LORD HIRSHFIELD

Lord Hirshfield, chartered accountant and founder and chairman of Trades Union Unit Trust Managers, 1961-83, died on December 6 aged 80. He was born on May 17, 1913.



THE SON of a middle-class Conservative family, Lord Hirshfield received his life peerage under the second Harold Wilson administration in 1967 largely as a result of his work in establishing a unit trust fund for trade unions. It was a valiant attempt to bring capital and labour together at a time when things were actually on the verge of looking increasingly unpropitious for such a marriage. Trades Union Unit Trust Managers placed its services at the disposal of both individual trade union members and of unions themselves. At the start one of its largest clients was, paradoxically, the Communist-led Electrical Trades Union (ETU).

In the wake of the Labour Government's defeat at the general election of 1970 Lord Hirshfield, at Harold Wilson's request, drew up a plan for making the workings of the Leader of the Opposition's office more efficient. Inasmuch as his ideas tended to diminish the role of Labour Party headquarters, then still in Transport House, they were regarded as being rather too bold to be stomached. To Wilson's own disappointment, they were quietly shelved.

Desmond Barel Hirshfield was the son of a dentist who for some years practised near Aberfan, of tragic memory, in the South Wales coalfield. He was educated at City of London School and qualified as a chartered accountant just before the war. After the war he became involved in auditing the accounts of several trade unions and conceived the idea of using his knowledge to help the trade union movement.

From 1962 he was involved with the international accountancy consortium Horwath & Horwath and from 1968 to 1976 was chairman of Horwath & Horwath (UK). Socially conscious and in instincts politically to the left of centre as he was, his professional activities began to diversify in the early 1960s. This was in a political climate which, for the first time for 13 years, made the election of a Labour government seem a distinct possibility. The founding of Trades Union Trust Managers, in 1961, was one of the first steps in demonstrating to the Labour movement his credo that sound financial management need not be incompatible with socialist principles.

To ensure that trade unions were given no grounds to feel that their money was being spirited away and managed, out of their control, by City whizz kids, Hirshfield had built in to the unit trust an elected unit holders' investment committee, comprising representatives of the unions themselves. Thus, arguments about stock held in countries with politically unacceptable records — notably, in that period, South Africa — could be aired, with unions withdrawing if they felt unhappy about their investment.

Another of his interests was the Foundation on Automation and Human Development which he founded in 1962. He was to remain its director for the next 25 years. When, therefore, Wilson came to power in 1964, ushering in a government pledged to inaugurate modern, technology-based socialism and business practices, the achievements of a top-class accountant of Hirshfield's persuasions were naturally in harmony with his plans.

Hirshfield's diverse interests gave him wide appeal to an administration wanting to get away from an image of cloth cap socialism and take itself into the brave new world which beckoned in the confident Sixties. He was a member of the Committee on Consumer Credit; deputy chairman of the Northampton New Town Development Corporation; a member of the Central Advisory Water Committee; and, on the international front, treasurer of the UK Committee of Unicef.

After the failure of his scheme to reform the Leader of the Opposition's office, Hirshfield was not prominent in the House of Lords and had little influence on the Labour administrations of the latter 1970s. But he continued active in his business interests and was president of Horwath & Horwath International, 1977-84, and international president until 1986. He was the author of a number of pamphlets on accounting and tax matters.

He married, in 1951, Bronia Eisen, who survives him. An earlier marriage, to Alma King, was dissolved.

DON AMECHE

Don Ameche, Hollywood film actor, died on December 6 aged 85. He was born Dominic Felix Amici in Kenosha, Wisconsin, on May 31, 1908.

A POPULAR Hollywood leading man of the 1930s and 1940s, Don Ameche had been away from the screen for 12 years and largely forgotten when he returned at the age of 75 to play a rich villain in the hit comedy, *Trading Places* (1983). His excellent performance led to *Cocoon* (1985) for which he won an Oscar for best supporting actor.

Ameche was the son of an Italian immigrant father and an Irish-German mother. He went to university to study law but made his professional acting debut while still a student and his New York stage debut at 21. He continued to work in the theatre, and became well-known as a radio personality before entering films in 1936.

He failed a screen test at MGM in 1935 — "I saw it and hated it," he said. "But then I found later that I hated everything I did." An agent, however, showed the test to Darryl F. Zanuck, the chief of 20th Century Fox, and Zanuck made Ameche the busiest actor at the studio.

In the next dozen years he made more than 40 pictures, many of them musicals and light romances. With glossy, dark hair and a pencil moustache, he was usually cast as the debonair man-about-town, though his most famous part was the title role in *The Story of Alexander Graham Bell* (1939). The film started a joke that Ameche had invented the telephone and for a while telephones became popularly known as "Ameches".

Although never pretending to any great range, Ameche managed to vary his roles sufficiently to avoid typecasting. He played D'Artagnan in a 1939 musical burlesque of *The Three Musketeers* and, in the same year, the songwriter, Stephen Foster, in *Swanee River*. Ameche proved the ideal leading man for such stars as Loretta Young (*Ramona*, *Love Under Fire*), Betty Grable (*Down Argentine Way*, *Moon Over Miami*) and especially Alice Faye (*In Old Chicago*, *Alexander's Ragtime Band*, *Hollywood Cavalcade*). But his best performance was as the dead man sent back to earth in Ernst Lubitsch's comic fantasy, *Heaven Can Wait* (1943).

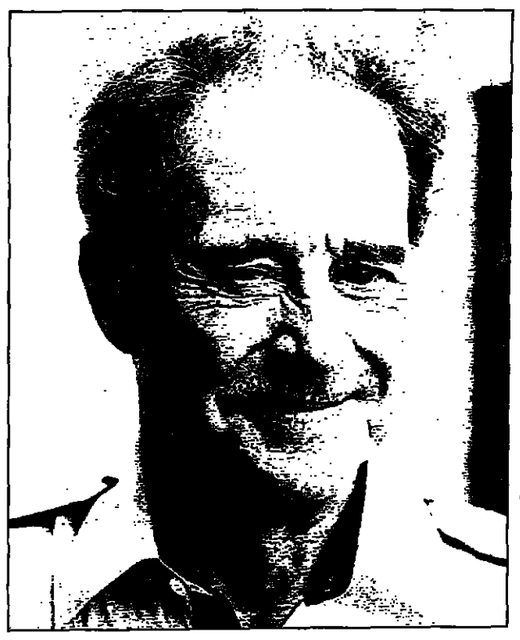
Ameche also starred opposite Claudette Colbert in the classic comedy *Midnight*, which came out in 1939. She played a penniless American girl in Paris who is befriended by Ameche, a taxi driver. Ameche's time at the top proved to be relatively brief and by the 1950s his career as a Hollywood star seemed over.

He himself believed his Hollywood slide began when he refused a three-year extension on his Fox contract. He returned to the stage, appearing in several productions on Broadway, including Cole Porter's *Silk Stockings*, and twice, during the 1970s, playing Jimmy Smith in revivals of *No No Nanette*. In 1975 he was reunited with a former screen partner, Alice Faye, in a touring production of the musical, *Good News*.

From 1959 he worked regularly in television, having his own show with the band singer, Frances Langford, and acting as ringmaster in a long running series about circuses. He was also in several made-for-television films.

A man who kept himself fit and spent his money wisely, Ameche was happily surprised by his come-back to the cinema. *Trading Places*, which starred Dan Ackroyd and Eddy Murphy, showed he had lost none of his polish or comic timing and, with equal relish, he took his part in *Cocoon* as one of the residents of an old people's home visited by extra-terrestrials.

He was married in 1932 and had six children.



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THE PASS OF MONT CENIS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

TURIN, DEC. 4

From the oppressive stove-heated atmosphere of the Senate-house, and from the endless and bootless discussion of a settled question, it is a relief to fly for a moment to the crests of Mont Cenis and watch the heavy sledges and their sorely jolted inmates struggling through the fresh-fallen snow. "Twenty-six hours from Paris to Turin," one read, not more than six weeks ago, posted on the walls of both capitals. The announcement, never very strictly true, has since been suspended: we are on the winter establishment, and the time employed is more like six and thirty, with the passage of the mountain made chiefly in the night, and arrival to an early breakfast in Turin. Where are those moles, burrowing below our feet? Listen for the tap of the machine of many hammers, knocking at the doors of Alpine gnomes, and driving them to their innermost recesses and most secret caves, there to plot mischief and prepare perils for the daring miners, bent upon the penetration of mysteries sacred since the world commenced. Well as the machinery is said to answer, and with the help of many hands and all the appliances that have been brought to bear, the passage opens but slowly. The annual sum allowed for the prosecution of the monster tunnel has been doubled, and 220,000*l.* is now each year devoted to this mighty labour. But gold and iron, the toil of men, the power of ingenious engines, the blast of powder, are all in vain to hurry a work which from its nature must of necessity be slow. Five years have now elapsed since its commencement: at first there were delays, interruptions, difficulties of various kinds, and it is only much more recently that the enterprise can be said to have got into full swing. A handsome result will be shown by the report of 1864, but it is obtained, as above stated, at an annual charge heavy for Italian finances in their present state, and—even continuing at the same pace and excluding the unfavourable hypothesis of new difficulties being encountered, such as deep chasms or large bodies of water—it is estimated that not less than ten years must elapse before the bold miners, advancing simultaneously from the French and the Italian flanks of the Alps, shall exchange a first triumphant greeting. Ten years are a long time for a public spoilt by the convenience of railway travelling, by carriages as large as rooms, and by spacious well-cushioned armchairs.

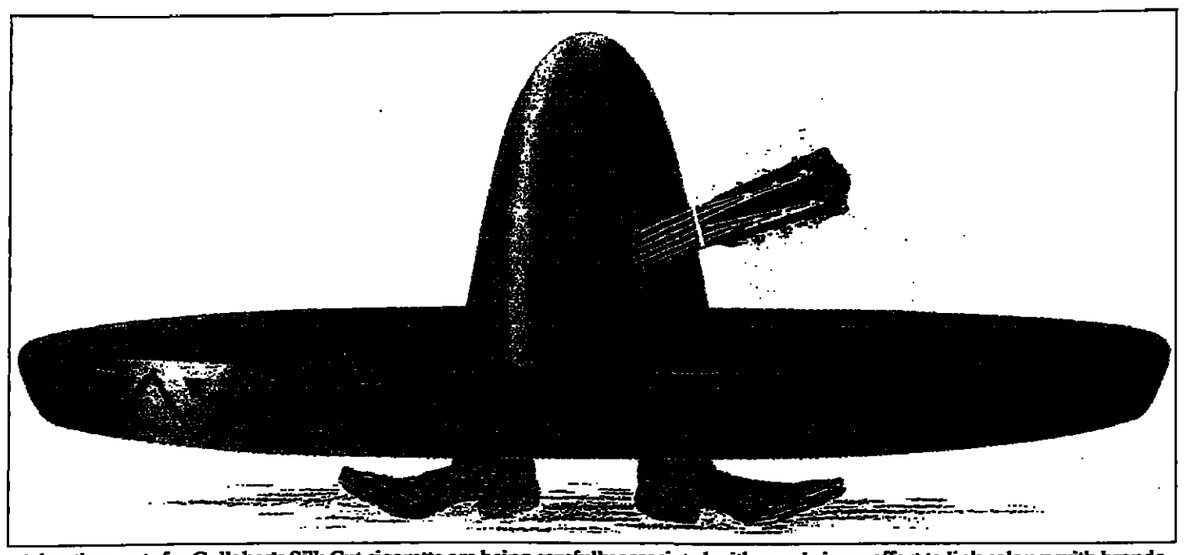
ON THIS DAY

December 8 1864

Napoleon opened up the road track over the pass; a light railway was attempted alongside the road (gradient tests for the engine being carried out in Derbyshire), but the scheme was abandoned when the eight-mile tunnel was completed in 1871.

Purple is the colour of money

As legislation tries to snuff out tobacco ads, Alan Mitchell reports on an industry fightback



Advertisements for Gallaher's Silk Cut cigarette are being carefully associated with purple in an effort to link colours with brands

The great smoking and advertising debate is hotting up again. Over the next few weeks, the European Commission is to discuss a directive to ban tobacco advertising, a private member's Bill to ban tobacco advertising in the UK will be introduced, and Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, is expected to announce the renegotiation of the voluntary agreement that governs tobacco marketing in Britain.

Although the tobacco industry insists that the £100 million it spends each year on advertising and sponsorship merely rearranges market share among existing players, health campaigners have taken on the task of convincing the public and the Government that cigarette advertising does indeed work.

Peter Middleton, Imperial Tobacco's marketing director, says: "All the evidence suggests that no amount of marketing will appeal to non-smokers. Our number one objective is to increase market share in a declining market."

But Kevin Barron, the Labour MP sponsoring the private member's Bill, argues: "The industry must replace 110,000 smokers who die every year [from smoking-related diseases]. That is what tobacco advertising is all about."

So far, the British Government has stalwartly opposed a ban on advertisements. It argues that voluntary marketing restrictions and hefty hikes in tax restrict smoking more effectively. Today, for example, a pack of 20 Embassy cigarettes selling at £2.51 has duty of £1.91. As duty levels have risen, cigarette consumption in the UK has fallen, from 120 billion a year in 1980 to less than 90 billion last year. That is a more impressive fall than in European countries that back advertising bans.

Britain's support for a voluntary approach means the 2½-year EC deadlock over the issue will continue, and that the UK parliamentary Bill is likely to be stillborn, even though, as David Pollock, director of the pressure group Action On Smoking and Health (ASH), says: "In a free vote, it would command a majority in the House."

Under the current voluntary agreement, the tobacco industry is committed to reducing poster and permanent shop-front advertising by 50 per cent over the next few years. It has already acceded to a ban on cinema and video cassette ads, and on ads in magazines read by young women.

Mrs Bottomley, faced with evidence that her targets for reducing cancer and heart disease incidence will not be met, has told fellow ministers that more drastic action is needed.

Now the Department of Health has confirmed it is considering seeking a "voluntary" ban on tobacco advertising in posters, women's magazines, and on shop fronts.

Yet as anti-advertising pressure grows, the tobacco industry has become something of a marketing innovator. For the past few years, it has been assiduously building up massive data-bases of the names and addresses of cigarette smokers and the brands they prefer. It has also begun sampling campaigns at discos, pop concerts, and railway stations.

Its communications are meanwhile becoming ever more subtle — even subliminal. Camel, the huge American cigarette brand, is now brought before the UK's public eye in the guise of a shoe — a successful product in its own right. Marlboro has opened a shop in London's Covent Garden selling Philip Morris's Marlboro-branded non-tobacco products.

The tobacco companies are also trying to link type faces, designs or colours with the brands. Gallaher's Silk Cut is being carefully associated with purple, Benson & Hedges with gold, Marlboro with red: if the association between a colour or design and the brand name is strong enough, that colour or design can, they hope, send brand messages without any actual appearance by the brand name.

Mr Pollock says: "A strong case can be made that the cryptic ads used by the industry are more effective because they are much more engaging."

Watchdog barks out its message

The ASA wants to be better known

The Advertising Standards Authority, the watchdog over the 30 million advertisements produced each year, is to promote itself in January with its own advertising campaign.

Caroline Crawford, an ASA executive, explains, however, that as consumer culture grows more sophisticated, the ASA is monitoring advertising long before complaints arrive.

The public has in the past been asked to approach the ASA. Miss Crawford says, "but we also undertake a lot of active work ourselves and we want to emphasise that we have this active role, not just one that is reactive to complaints".

The ASA hopes that all the space it uses in print and on poster sites will be donated by media owners. "We're looking for much more before the campaign starts on January 4," she adds.

The creative work is by Burkitt Weinreich Bryant Clients & Co. and the media buying by the London Media Group. Both have been undertaken without payment. Hugh Burkitt, Burkitt's chairman, and London Media's Bob Blatchford sit on the ASA's advertising practice committee.

The ASA, now 31 years old, is funded by a 0.1 per cent levy made on all display-advertising expenditure. Last year, its 60 members of staff dealt with 11,000 complaints, and 600 advertisements were withdrawn.

Miss Crawford says: "We have a sophisticated monitoring and statistical sampling operation, and it's easy to spot adverts which have some obvious fact missing, such as the closing date for a special offer. We also monitor certain sectors particularly closely, such as alcohol advertising."

However, health product advertising is now the most worrying area.

The ASA's powers are surprisingly strong. "We have a wide range of sanctions," she says. "Publishers won't carry ads if they break our codes. In 97 per cent of cases, advertisers will change an ad if it transgresses. On the rare occurrences when they won't we can ask the publishers of the advert to invoke the code.

"This can take place within 24 hours, although normally we would give the advertiser longer so they can respond to our criticisms."

With persistent offenders, the ASA can pass on its report to the trading standard authorities or, finally, the police. It also offers much pre-publication advice, particularly in sensitive areas such as cigarette or alcohol advertising.

The ASA campaign will not be targeting specific advertising sectors because, Miss Crawford says, "We don't want to imply one part of the industry is at fault".

So how will this campaign be judged? "We do research every two or three years", says Miss Crawford, "and at the moment with unprompted recall, about 30 per cent of the population know who we are [with prompted recall this figure is 69 per cent]. We want to improve this."

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هكذا من الأصل

A proper press for a public princess

Roy Greenslade on the curious reasoning behind the royal retreat

In the days when women wished to retreat unto a nunnery they did not usually call on every scribe in the land to act as witnesses. They might well have thought that to make a public announcement of their decision to resile their public duties was nonsensical.

Not so the Princess. She chose the limelight to bow out of the limelight, the first contradiction of many in this strange saga.

The media were summoned to hear that the media were to blame. The ambiguities in her statement — omitting, for instance, any reference to her husband — were bound to stimulate rather than stifle speculation.

She complained of "overwhelming" press scrutiny, but was not above manipulating newspapers for her own ends. It was supposedly media pressure which led her to withdraw from public duties.

Yet the press has never been a problem for Princess Diana in her public role. Her various attendances at hospitals, factories, film premieres and state banquets are always tightly orchestrated.

A phalanx of photographers may look threatening but the reality is otherwise. They cannot be said to be intrusive, held back behind barriers and snapping away for a few blinding moments as she enters or leaves a function.

Only one photographer, chosen on a rota system, is allowed closer access, and his or her activities are closely monitored. Nobody has abused that trust on such occasions and, except for one minor skirmish with a pushy freelance, she has never been known to show annoyance.

The only upsetting photographic intrusions have all occurred outside her public duties, during her holidays or, notoriously, when exercising in a private health club.

One other major breach of her privacy — the tape-recording of a telephone conversation — was also nothing to do with her public role.

Indeed, it can be argued that the advantage for the Princess of Wales in carrying out public duties is that the repetitious nature of such photographs has led to diminishing press interest.

Some of the regular Diana-watching journalists admit that she has not been drawing large crowds in recent months. Freelance photographers have found it hard to market their pictures, especially since she has tended to scurry past them of late, often wearing "old" outfits.



The Princess of Wales after last week's announcement

Magazine editors also report that the days of guaranteeing extra sales through publishing the Princess's picture on a front cover are long gone. A scarcity of public appearances is bound to reverse that trend, leading to the very opposite of her supposed intention.

It will also place pressure on the tabloids to behave in a way alien to their tradition and their instincts.

That is why Sir David English, chairman of Associated Newspapers, publisher of the *Daily Mail* and the *Mail on Sunday*, has quickly issued a warning to editors.

As chairman of the Press Complaints Commission (PCC)'s code of conduct committee, he has reminded them not to buy or publish pictures of the Princess if taken by rogue paparazzi who ignore the rules.

But his position is also riven with the kind of contradictions which bedevil the debate about how newspapers should react. He has emerged as an admirer of the Princess, and sympathised with her statement.

In one memorable passage she said: "I was not aware of how overwhelming that [media] attention would become; nor the extent to which it would affect both my public duties and my personal life, in a manner that has been hard to bear."

How then does Sir David square his endorsement of that comment with the fact that his own *Daily Mail* devoted 22 pages on Saturday to the subject, far more than any other newspaper?

It was a perfect illustration of the dilemma that faces every tabloid editor: if coverage of the Princess's plight sells papers, how does one refrain from going over the top?

With papers struggling for sales, the coming months will test the resolve and nerve of all editors. What will happen if they hear a rumour that a rival is about to publish pictures they have rejected?

This could prove a real test for the PCC, and its occasionally eccentric chairman, Lord McGregor. The survival of self-regulation might depend on him acting as a neutral go-between to prevent rumour causing an editor to misbehave.

Not that this should give hope to MPs who argue that it is time for a privacy law. If the Princess of Wales has been hounded from public life it has, on balance, precious little to do with the media.

● *The author is a former editor of the* Daily Mirror.

How can children, bombarded with images, learn to distinguish reality? **Gerald Isaaman** argues for censorship

Videos: it's time to turn nasty

The contradictions of life are, perhaps, its true fascination. And they are many. History excels in the march of folly, the moments when those in power stubbornly refused to accept the obvious, and disaster ensued. So it is worth posing the question whether the mass communications of today and the next millennium will create a new tower of Babel leading to chaos and confusion, rather than to coherence and what we think of as happiness.

There will soon be available the video you talk to, rather than press buttons to operate. All you do is speak into a tiny microphone and say Play or Record or whatever, and it carries out your commands. Maybe that is the answer for parents who can't control what their children see on the screen. Who knows?

The television screen is undoubtedly the great educator, informer and entertainer. But it also presents inherent dangers, as Orwell forecast, in particular in its ability to change (as it has done) the way people perceive the world. It alters the concepts of the young from those stimulated by experience and the written/spoken word, which create their own unique images, to a culture more stimulated and manipulated by pictures.

And the problem here is that fact and fantasy go into the same melting pot. The camera does lie, if you want it to, and there is money in the offing.

We teach our children, almost automatically, how to cross the road safely, never to accept sweets from strangers, to beware of smoking, drugs, drink and much else taken in excess, but not, alas, about brainwashing of a virtually voluntary variety that in wartime would be recognised as the work of some latter-day evil genius like Goebbels.

That may sound like the overstatement of the year, but how is it that babies only a few months old can be sat in front of a machine showing flickering pictures to keep them amused and out of harm's way, as if they were sucking some visual lollipop? How do they tell what is real? What is right and wrong? How do they recognise murder as unacceptable when it is portrayed as some everyday sanitised event, and they never see the consequences of outrageous violence?

Most children nowadays see more murders in a year watching television and videos than they could ever contemplate reading books, magazines and newspapers. Yet, despite all the available evidence, let alone common sense, this brainwashing is accepted unequivocally, apart from a few sensible voices, until some shocking incident such as the Bulger case strikes so many hearts and consciences, producing a crescendo of moral panic about the state of society that has been too obvious for too long.

Why else should the late author of *Clockwork Orange* demand self-censorship? He was no Hampstead trendy, more a man who recognised that the tortures of war — and the media in general have relented in reporting the sickening excesses of Bosnia — can be enacted in peacetime due to commercial and prurient market forces.



Parallels were drawn between the character of Chucky in the video *Child's Play 3* (above), and the James Bulger case

There was no television in our house from the time our son was two until he was 14, and all three of us survived happily. Indeed, when the Americans landed on the moon we hired a set to see this momentous occasion. Yet in the office next day nobody had sacrificed their sleep to watch history in the making; all were quite content with action replay.

Video nasties pander to inane cruelty and brutalism. They plague innocent and receptive minds in the name of entertainment and enjoyment — certainly not enlightenment. Violence may be in our genes, but if we claim to be civilised and not in some classic decadent mode, we have to control and discipline it with something more effective than wishy-washy legislation that sits on the shelf unused.

In Strasbourg almost a decade ago, I watched along with British MEPs clips of inhumane videos about which we should have turned nasty long before they arrived here. It was then that I changed my views on censorship, voluntarily.

At least now the serious debate has begun. Freedom of expression is one thing none will deny; freedom to abuse and pervert is another. There is always a fine line, which is why society lurches one way or the other, either taking draconian measures or allowing excesses. We do have to find a reasonable and reassuring way ahead through our contradictions.

● *The author is editor of the* Hampstead and Highgate Express *and a member of the Press Complaints Commission.*

NEWS BITES

Game to be a sponsor

THE Independent Television Commission today publishes its revised code on sponsorship which includes new rules under which betting and gaming organisations can sponsor television programmes. The first programme to go out under such a deal is the travel show *Wish You Were Here* made by Central and Thames and sponsored by Vernons Pools.

Questions will now be raised by the bookies about rules which prevent them buying television advertising airtime. Some are peeved that the National Lottery will be allowed to run television commercials when it is launched in 1994/95, but they will not. The Heritage Department explains that the lottery involves no skill and is for public benefit, and therefore does not count as gambling.

30 years already?

ANOTHER month, another anniversary. Following hard on the heels of *Blue Peter*'s 35th birthday and *Dr Who*'s 30th, *Top of the Pops* will be celebrating its 30th anniversary with a special tribute on Radio 1 to be broadcast on January 2. The programme started in 1964 in a deconsecrated church in Rusholme, Manchester, with Jimmy Savile as DJ and guests Dusty Springfield, the Beatles and the Dave Clarke Five.

A dog is for ever

A SERIES of highly charged and emotional radio commercials for the RSPCA made by the advertising agency Abbott Mead Vickers BBDO swept the board at this week's Commercial Radio Awards 1993. The gold prize for the best overall advertisement went to an ad looking at life from the perspective of a dog that has been given as an unwanted Christmas present. Unmoved, guests at London's Grosvenor House Hotel chatted noisily throughout the ceremony.

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11.00 Remind the speakers at next week's conference that we need their documentation by tommorow lunch time - book the printer NOW.
12.30 Run out for a sandwich.
12.45 Start making research calls for new conference topic ("What is Business Process Re-engineering anyway?")
3.15 Finalise last speakers; make finishing touches to the copy, design the front cover of the brochure; prepare colour split.
5.00 Brief the printer and confirm print qualities, delivery dates etc.
5.30 Meet with the Divisional Manager to discuss research findings so far on new topic.
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EXTENSIVE SOURCE OF UNADVERTISED VACANCIES

THE TIMES TODAY WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8 1993

NEWS

Is prince fit to rule, asks churchman

■ The Prince of Wales is threatening the survival of the monarchy, and may not be a suitable candidate to become supreme governor of the Church of England, according to the Ven George Austin, Archdeacon of York.

Referring to the vows Prince Charles will make at his coronation, the Archdeacon said: "If his attitude to his vows of matrimony was so cavalier, has he the right to be trusted in this second solemnity?" Pages 1, 3

France opens way to trade agreement

■ After a year of fierce resistance, France has signalled provisional acceptance of the Blair House pact on agriculture, the centrepiece of any final agreement on the new Gatt round. Optimism was rising last night that a final settlement was indeed achievable Pages 1, 10, 16

Offer to names

Lloyd's of London has offered £900 million to more than 21,000 names to compensate them for losses of £5.5 billion. The offer is aimed at ending moves by names to recover their losses through the courts Page 1

Hospitals to close

The closure or merger of major London hospitals, including the Hammersmith and St Bartholomew's, is to be announced by Virginia Bottomley before Christmas to mark the radical re-shaping of the capital's health service Page 1

Pushing at the bar

Solicitors' attempts to break the Bar's monopoly of advocacy rights in the higher courts will be rejected by senior judges later this week Page 1

Santa snubbed

Santa Claus, Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer, the three wise men, angels, nativity scenes and the word Christmas have been dropped from Birmingham City Council's seasonal offering because the the Labour council has deemed them politically incorrect Page 2

Tree protest ends

After a bloody eight-hour battle, the might of 300 police officers and 150 security men finally overcame the protests of around 200 environmentalists and tore down an ancient chestnut tree blocking a road development in east London Page 3

Drink-drive ban

Robert Key, the roads minister, hinted that motorists could face a total ban on drink driving as he announced a £1m Christmas television advertising campaign Page 6

Jealous son jailed

Karl Watson, 29, who bound and gagged his mother's lover, kept him in a freezing cold lock-up and then stabbed him to death, was jailed for life at the Old Bailey Page 8

Tests admitted

America has admitted that it carried out 252 secret nuclear tests over a period of 30 years at its test site in Nevada and in the Pacific Ocean Page 12

Settlers buried

Rabbis, high-school students and rightwing political activists turned out in force to pay their last respects to two Jewsih settlers who were gunned down by Palestinian militants Page 11

Space triumph

The mission to repair the Hubble space telescope is surpassing all the expectations of Nasa and the European Space Agency. Each day sees a new piece of equipment almost flawlessly installed by Endeavour's crew Page 13

Minority rule over

Three and a half centuries of white minority rule in South Africa has officially ended as for the first time black citizens have begun to take part in executive decisions Page 13

Tiny riot in paradise hardly hurts 18

■ There is trouble in paradise. St Christopher and St Nevis, idyllic Caribbean islands that are the stuff of tourist dreams, are under a state of emergency after rioting and disturbances provoked by recent general election results. The damage was hardly catastrophic. Some reports say 18 people received minor cuts and bruises Page 12

KEITH SUTTER



The British expedition on its way to completing the first crossing of China's Taklamakan desert, the "desert of death". Page 8

BUSINESS

Lloyd's offer: Struggling names rejected the £900 million compensation package put forward by the insurance market. The offer was made on condition that the names drop all litigation concerning their losses at Lloyd's Page 23

Recovery pause: The British recovery could pause next year when the huge package of Lamont and Clarke tax increases hit the economy, the Treasury's chief economic adviser acknowledged Page 23

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index closed unchanged at 3237.3. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 82.0 to 81.6 after a fall from $1.4990 to $1.4952 and from DM2.5565 to DM2.5451 Page 26

SPORT

Rugby Union: Oxford regained the Bowring Bowl with a dominant performance in the University match at Twickenham, beating Cambridge 20-8 Page 44

Synchronised swimming: This week, Sylvie Frechette, of the United States, collected the Olympic gold medal she should have been awarded in Barcelona 18 months ago. Then, the wrong push of a button by a judge relegated her to second place Page 39

Football: No English team has beaten an Italian club in Italy. Mike Walker, Norwich's manager, believes his team, a goal down after the first leg, will make history by beating Internazionale Page 42

FEATURES

Abbey send-off: A memorial service for the comedian Les Dawson is to be held in Westminster Abbey. James Bredin on final honours granted to Britain's national figures Page 15

Royal hopes: The rift between the Prince and Princess of Wales is nowhere near being healed as they plan separate futures for themselves. Alan Hamilton on a public relations struggle Page 14

Public retreat: The Princess of Wales's announcement that she is to cut back on public life is part of a saga of contradictions about her privacy. And, says Roy Greenslade, the media are not to blame for her decision Page 21

ARTS

Albert's vision: Three top British architects — Sir Norman Foster, Sir Richard Rogers and Terry Farrell — have each unveiled plans for "Albertopolis", the museums area of South Kensington Page 33

Kirov at the Albert Hall: Top singers from St Petersburg's Kirov Opera presented a magnificent performance of Tchaikovsky's *Iolanta* in London Page 34

Small stage for giants: With Pinter premiering his new play on its stage, and actors Paul Eddington and Diana Rigg regularly appearing, the Almeida Theatre in Islington has had the kind of year that most West End managements can only dream about Page 35

PEOPLE IN THE TIMES



Sarah Locker, who was awarded more than £32,000 in settlement of her case against the Metropolitan Police alleging discrimination
Page 5



Baroness Thatcher, who entertained Mikhail Gorbachev, the former president of the Soviet Union, for lunch at her Belgravia home
Page 2



Felix Houphouet-Boigny, Africa's longest-serving president, whose death in Yamoussoukro has left a power vaccum in the Cote d'Ivoire
Pages 13, 19

THE TIMES TOMORROW

All the King's men

■ Who would have thought in 1968 that six awfully square young men from Cambridge University could carve out a spectacular career in showbiz? Richard Morrison on 25 years of the King's Singers

Hollywood on the road

■ The film *Sleepless in Seattle* prompted a rush of bookings by tourists to visit the locations used. David Churchill on movie theme holidays in America

Hearing the worst

■ Ear infection can be a serious problem for children as well as adults. Body and Mind offers some advice

TV LISTINGS

Ben Elton brings his ecological satire to the small screen and plays an aspiring writer in Australia who is trying to save the world. *Stark* (BBC2, 9.25pm) Page 43

OPINION

Fit to rule

The misfortunes of the prince's private life have been a regrettable chapter in the history of the monarchy: but they are an unjust, unreliable and unconstitutional test of his fitness to rule Page 17

Set Sunday free

MPs must decide not whether some people should observe different habits on one day of the week but whether the state should force everyone to do so Page 17

A statesman calls

Mikhail Gorbachev is a living refutation of the Marxist principle that history is shaped by economic and social forces, not by personalities Page 17

COLUMNS

ALAN COREN

Last week, I was sitting opposite the home secretary at dinner, engaged in the innocent social commerce of persiflage and quip, and all the time that remarkable brain was cobbling together the next day's wonderful new government idea Page 16

SIMON JENKINS

No American President can prevent foreign affairs dominating his life. Even without a Cold War, Mr Clinton is still condemned to trial by overseas crisis. This is the drumbeat by which the world at home and abroad judges his firmness of purpose Page 16

LETTERS

Would Sunday trading be unfair to shopworkers while being convenient for customers? Correspondents include directors of the large retail chains Page 17

THE PAPERS

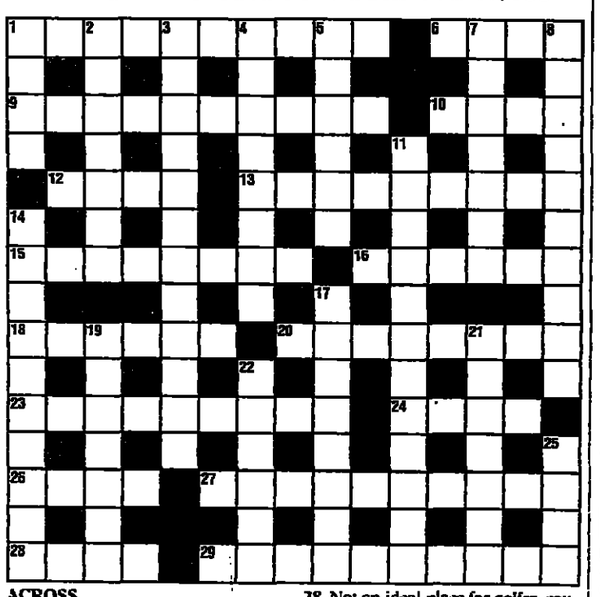
Over the past century the times of expanding trade have meant increasing prosperity for most of the world, and the times of stagnant or contracting trade have been disastrous. That's why the quarrelling in Brussels now needs urgently to be brought to a conclusion

— The Washington Post

North Korea could be stalling. Or it may genuinely wish to trade away its nuclear programme for other benefits. The only way to find out is to probe diplomatically — by offering an enticing deal

— The New York Times

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,408



ACROSS

1 Strikingly detailed (4-2-4).
6 Staunch supporter of Rose (4)
9 A first-born treated as a prince (10).
10 New addition to hand puppet (4).
12 Transported far from base (4).
13 Singer with a pipe coming round after dance (9).
15 Ring guarded by one chosen specially for integrity (8).
16 Article taken by crook found in island (6).
18 In a way, performin' publicly in tragic drama (6).
20 Whites baked in summer in Guernsey (8).
23 Remove starling found in flower (9).
24 Arrow's flight (4).
26 Recognize key man on board immediately (4).
27 Bird's perch, perhaps, placed between monarchs (10).
28 Not an ideal place for golfer, say, to get a birdie (4).
29 Warning given by ghost could be omen (10).

DOWN

1 Shine as expert on particular subject (4).
2 It's monstrous — so raised one's hand and left (7).
3 Comedy that was written for a lark, originally (6,6).
4 Boy with a bomb in battle for the Bulge (4,4).
5 Source of advice or a tip you reportedly ignored (6).
7 Note a couple of pages for a fortune-teller to read (3-4).
8 Resent an academic, one with access to other's ideas (4-6).
11 Christian's inhuman superior (7,5).
14 What'll get a party going? It's a specialized craft (3-7).
17 Order e.g. eel, as a big consumer of fish (3,5).
19 Unexpected gain from putting fast bowlers on (4-3).
21 Fool a duke, the epitome of nobility (7).
22 Is an occasion for alternative forms of this card game? (6).
25 Alice saw a big black one put an end to an idiotic quarrel (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 19.407

C	A	U	S	E	W	A	Y	■	D	I	S	A	R	M
A	■	R	■	N	■	L	■	■	R	■	L	■	I	■
R	I	G	I	D	I	T	Y	■	T	O	X	I	N	S
E	■	E	■	O	■	E	■	P	■	N	■	E	■	D
S	I	N	E	W	■	R	O	A	D	S	E	N	S	E
S	■	T	■	M	■	N	■	R	■	■	■	A	■	A
■	■	■	D	E	P	A	R	T	M	E	N	T	A	L
S	C	N	■	T	■	I	■	M	■	E	■	T	■	■
M	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	T	I	M	E	■	■	■
O	■	P	■	V	■	I	■	E	■	V	■	B	■	■
C	A	B	A	L	L	E	R	O	■	N	I	E	C	E
K	■	O	■	E	■	S	■	N	■	T	■	R	■	R
I	B	A	D	A	N	■	W	I	S	H	B	O	N	E
N	■	R	■	V	■	S	■	A	■	N	■	F	■	■
G	A	D	G	E	T	■	S	T	A	L	W	A	R	T

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by all 22 of the competitors in the 1993 National Final of The Times Knockando Crossword Championship.

Times Two Crossword, page 44

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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Area within M25	731
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M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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WEATHER

A wet start in most places except parts of Scotland and northeast England. The rain will turn to snow on the hills of Wales and northern England and on low ground in northeast England. Snowfalls are expected over central and northern Scotland, with drifting over the hills. Strong to gale-force winds may reach severe gale force in the west. Outlook: brighter and colder with showers.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Alaccio	13	55	c	Madrid	3	37	fg
Alcudia	19	66	f	Majorca	15	59	s
Alex'dria	20	68	f	Malaga	18	64	s
Algiers	14	57	s	Malta	19	66	f
Amst'dm	7	45	r	Melb'rne	18	64	s
Athens	13	55	f	Mexico C*	18	64	s
Bahrain	23	73	s	Miami*	25	77	s
Bangkok	27	81	s	Milan	8	43	f
Barbados*	29	84	f	Montreal*	2	36	c
Barcelona	13	55	s	Moscow	0	32	f
Beirut	19	66	f	Munich	3	37	r
Belgrade	5	41	s	Nairobi	22	72	f
Berlin	4	39	s	Naples	15	59	c
Bermuda*	25	77	s	N Delhi	20	68	s
Biarritz	13	55	s	N York*	9	48	s
Borde'x	11	52	r	Nice	15	59	s
Brussels	6	43	r	Oslo	5	41	r
Budapst	0	32	c	Paris	6	43	r
B Aires*	25	77	s	Peking	6	43	s
Cairo	19	66	s	Perth	30	86	s
Cape Tn	22	72	s	Prague	0	32	c
Chicago*	4	39	c	Reykjavik	-1	27	s
Ch'church	9	48	r	Rhodes	17	63	f
Cologne	6	43	c	Rio de J	35	95	f
C'phagn	5	41	f	Riyadh	25	77	b
Corfu	16	61	s	Rome	16	61	r
Dublin	4	39	s	Salzburg	1	34	f
Dubrovnik	12	54	s	S Frisco*	13	55	r
Faro	17	63	s	Santiago*	29	84	s
Florence	6	43	r	S Paulo*	21	70	d
Frankfurt	3	37	c	Seoul	5	41	s
Funchal	15	59	c	Sing'por	30	86	r
Geneva	5	41	c	Stckholm	5	41	r
Gibraltar	18	64	s	Strasb'rg	4	39	c
Helsinki	3	37	c	Sydney	19	66	c
Hong K	22	72	s	Tangier	15	59	c
Innsbruck	3	37	f	Tenerife	20	68	s
Istanbul	9	48	f	Tokyo	11	52	s
Jeddah	31	88	s	Toronto*	3	37	sn
Jo'burg*	25	77	f	Tunis	18	64	s
Karachi	32	90	s	Valencia	15	59	s
L Palmas	21	70	f	Vanc'ver*	1	34	f
La Touet	8	46	f	Venice	6	43	f
Lisbon	13	55	f	Vienna	-3	27	fg
Locarno	6	43	f	Warsaw	5	41	s
L Angels*	17	63	f	Wash'ton*	9	48	s
Luxembg	3	37	r	Zurich	3	37	c
Luxor	22	72	s				

* denotes figures are latest available

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp max 6am to 6pm, 9C (48F), min 6pm to 6am, 8C (46F) Humidity: 6pm, 61 per cent Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.17in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 2.5hr Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,006.3 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Sunday: Highest day temp: Falmouth, Cornwall, 12C (54F), lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 6C (43F); highest rainfall: Cape Wrath, Highland, 0.75in, highest sunshine: Herne Bay, Kent, 9.4hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp max 6am to 6pm, 6C (43F); min 6pm to 6am, 4C (39F) Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.61in Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 2.8hr.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp max 6am to 6pm, 4C (39F); min 6pm to 6am, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.28in Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.2hr

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.1	0.06	9	48	rain
Anglesey	0.5	-	11	52	cloudy
Aviemore	-	0.13	7	45	rain
Belfast	-	0.22	8	46	rain
Birmingham	1.1	0.01	9	48	shower
Bognor Regis	1.4	-	10	50	cloudy
Bournemouth	1.3	0.02	11	52	shower
Bristol	-	0.04	10	50	shower
Buxton	-	0.03	7	45	shower
Cardiff	1.6	0.04	10	50	cloudy
Clacton	0.1	-	9	48	cloudy
Cromer	1.4	-	x	x	cloudy
Eastbourne	1.2	-	10	50	cloudy
Edinburgh	0.5	0.04	9	48	rain
Eskdalemuir	-	0.58	7	45	rain
Exmouth	3.5	-	11	52	sunny
Falmouth	1.8	0.02	11	52	cloudy
Folkestone	1.1	-	10	50	bright
Glasgow	-	0.23	9	48	rain
Guernsey	0.5	0.01	11	52	cloudy
Hastings	0.2	-	10	50	cloudy
Hunstanton	1.9	-	9	48	cloudy
Isle of Man	0.3	0.02	11	52	rain
Jersey	0.8	-	10	50	cloudy
Kinloss	-	0.02	9	48	rain
Leeds	1.8	-	10	50	cloudy
Lerwick	-	0.24	6	43	hail
Littlehampton	0.7	-	11	52	cloudy
Lowestoft	0.8	-	9	48	rain
Manchester	-	0.01	9	48	rain
Margate	-	-	10	50	rain
Minehead	*	0.01	11	52	bright
Morecambe	-	0.01	10	50	rain
Newcastle	1.5	-	11	52	bright
Nottingham	0.4	0.01	10	50	cloudy
Penzance	2.5	0.03	11	52	cloudy
Plymouth	0.8	0.01	10	50	shower
Poole	1.3	-	12	54	cloudy
Saunton Snd	0.3	0.03	11	52	cloudy
Scarborough	1.7	-	9	48	cloudy
Scilly Isles	2.2	-	11	52	bright
Shanklin	1.2	-	10	50	cloudy
Southend	0.2	-	9	48	cloudy
Southsea	0.9	-	10	50	cloudy
Stornoway	2.0	0.37	9	48	shower
Swanage	1.7	0.01	11	52	shower
Teignmouth	2.6	-	11	52	bright
Tenby	0.2	0.08	11	52	cloudy
Tiree	-	0.21	10	50	rain
Torquay	1.5	0.01	12	54	cloudy
Weymouth	1.3	0.01	11	52	shower
Wick	0.1	0.02	7	45	rain

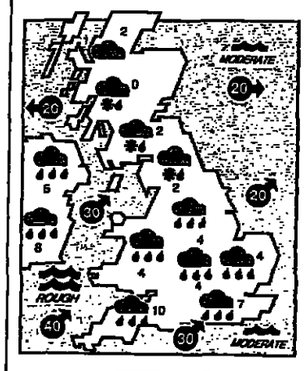
Those are Monday's figures

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.37	2.17
Austria Sch	18.94	17.44
Belgium Fr	56.44	52.04
Canada $	2.085	1.935
Cyprus Cypr£	0.795	0.745
Denmark Kr	10.55	09.85
Finland Mrk	9.25	08.45
France Fr	9.22	8.52
Germany Dm	2.70	2.48
Greece Dr	388.00	363.00
Hong Kong $	12.25	11.25
Ireland Pt	1.10	1.02
Italy Lira	2610.00	2455.00
Japan Yen	179.50	160.00
Malta	0.625	0.570
Netherlands Gld	3.010	2.780
Norway Kr	11.66	10.86
Portugal Esc	271.00	252.50
South Africa Rd	5.75	4.85
Spain Pta	218.00	204.00
Sweden Kr	13.02	12.22
Switzerland Fr	2.39	2.15
Turkey Lira	21209.0	20209.0
USA $	1.597	1.467

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 3.52 pm to 7.53 am
Bristol 4.02 pm to 8.02 am
Edinburgh 3.40 pm to 8.30 am
Manchester 3.50 pm to 8.13 am
Penzance 4.20 pm to 8.08 am

Sun rises: 7.53 am
Sun sets: 3.52pm
Moon sets 12.43 pm
Moon rises 1.33 am
New moon December 13

Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989: The hours of darkness are defined in these Regulations as the period between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.

YESTERDAY

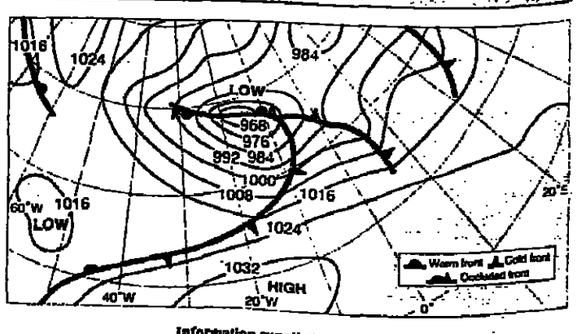
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	2	36	c	Guernsey	10	50	f
B'rmgham	7	45	s	Inverness	2	36	s
Blackpool	6	43	s	Jersey	9	48	f
Bristol	8	46	s	London	8	46	f
Cardiff	7	45	c	M'nchster	5	41	c
Edinburgh	3	37	f	Newcastle	4	39	s
Glasgow	3	37	sl	R'nldsway	6	43	s

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	8.01	6.1	8.57	6.3	Liverpool	5.46	8.0	6.12	8.3
Aberdeen	8.22	3.7	8.34	3.9	Lowestoft	3.28	2.3	4.54	4.9
Avonmouth	1.21	10.7	1.54	11.1	Margate	6.15	4.3	7.10	4.9
Belfast	5.36	3.0	5.58	3.4	Milford Haven	12.34	5.7	1.04	5.9
Cardiff	1.06	10.0	1.39	10.3	Newquay			12.04	6.0
Devonport			12.21	5.8	Oban	12.17	3.1	12.54	3.4
Dover	5.22	5.8	6.08	5.7	Penzance	11.40	4.8		
Falmouth	11.51	4.6			Portland	12.48	1.6	12.50	1.7
Glasgow	7.35	4.3	7.33	4.7	Portsmouth	5.54	4.3	6.18	4.2
Harwich	5.54	3.5	6.45	3.5	Shoreham	5.08	4.8	5.29	5.0
Holyhead	5.06	4.8	5.29	5.0	Southampton	5.38	5.5	6.16	5.3
Hull	12.11	6.5	1.13	6.3	Swansea	5.39	4.1	6.05	3.9
Ilfracombe	12.14	7.6	12.45	7.8	Tees	12.39	7.8	1.10	8.0
King's Lynn	12.26	5.6	1.30	5.4	Weton-on-Nze	10.42	4.6	11.01	4.7
Leith	9.31	4.8	9.52	5.0		5.53	3.7	6.45	3.7

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

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HOMES 31

Creative selling captures market imagination



ARTS 33-35

Small stage with a mighty dream

SPORT 38-44

Kentish village braced for tour of cycling duty

SOLICITORS WHO BREAK RULES
Law Report 32

25

THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8 1993

BT video plan runs into Oftel warning

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BT is to test-market its planned video-on-demand service in the spring, and is making early moves in advance of that to secure approval for the service from the industry's regulatory body.

But Oftel, the regulator, gave a warning there would be no change to the present restrictions on BT and other phone operators from carrying entertainment services before the year 2001.

BT's move, under which films and other video programming would be transmitted down a BT phone line, could prompt legal action from cable, satellite and current video operators. Such operators are increasingly moving into the phone market.

Iain Vallance, BT's chairman, announced yesterday that BT is about to start field trials of the service, where a customer would be able to request a film or another item that would then be transmitted via a phone line to the customer's TV set to be watched when the customer chose. If technical trials go well, BT plans then to begin test-marketing the service in about March to about 25,000 customers.

Speaking to a telecommunications industry conference in London, Mr Vallance defined the potential market widely, saying that the phone network was now an alternative to book and periodical publishers, cinemas, broadcasters, video rental shops, record and CD stores and video and film-makers — "in short, any business or activity which operates by presenting and/or receiving information in visual or audible form".

BT is to hold talks next month with Oftel on a range of multi-media activities, including video-on-demand, in the first clear move to obtain full regulatory approval.

Don Cruickshank, Director-General of Telecommunications, denied speculation about any change to the restrictions on BT and other phone operators from carrying entertainment services. He reaffirmed Oftel's intention that there should be no such change before 2001, as provided for in the Government's 1991 duopoly White Paper.

Pact under fire, page 24
Pennington, page 25



ALLAN WELLER

David Rowland, left, Lloyd's chairman, and Peter Middleton, chief executive, giving details yesterday of the plan to help names bear their massive losses

Lloyd's unveils £900m compensation package

BY SARAH BAGNALL
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

■ Action group leaders are urging names to reject a compensation offer that Lloyd's says is stretching resources to the maximum. Future losses will not be capped

LLOYD'S of London yesterday offered £900 million to more than 21,000 names in compensation for £5.5 billion of losses incurred up to the 1990 year of account. The offer, six months in the making, was immediately rejected out of hand by leading action group chairmen who labelled it "inadequate" and an "absolute joke".

The bulk of names are being offered less than £100,000 each, and 1,500 names are being offered nothing. At the other end of the scale are some 40 names who are being offered £750,000 to £1 million, and more than 100 names being offered £500,000 to £750,000. Lloyd's is also limiting its offer to two-thirds of a name's overall claimed losses.

Marie-Louise Burrows, of the Lime Street Action Group, which represents some of the hardest hit names, said: "This offer is not going to scrape my names off the bottom. It will just reduce them from being bust three times over to being bust one time over. We have 69 names who are litigating for more than £1 million they are still bust after an offer of two-thirds."

Lloyd's has sent individual offers to names on 30 syndicates, covering more than 100 syndicate-years. Peter Middleton, chief executive, said: "We were dealing with 700,000 separate syndicate participations in all. It was very complicated. This was a Rubik cube with a seventh side."

He added that the offer of £900 million, of which £450 million is estimated to have come from Lloyd's central fund, had "stretched the society's resources as far as we could. This is really the maximum the society can afford at this stage of its history".

However, Michael Deeny, of the Gooda Walker Action Group, said: "It is unlikely that this offer will be acceptable to names, not just Gooda Walker names." Referring to the errors and omission insurers' estimated contribution of £400 million, he said: "The figure suggested by the financial panel was £700 million. This could have been matched by Lloyd's taking the total to more than £1.4 billion."

The payouts favour the hardest hit and those with legal cases due in court first. While it covers all names on the 30 syndicates, it offers litigating names an extra £1 for every £2 offered to non-litigants. Names who issued writs before the end of October get an extra 20 per cent, while names on more than one LMX or stop-loss syndicate get an extra 10 per cent for every syndicate participation after the first.

One major dissapointment is that the offer fails to offer names a cap on any future deterioration in their losses — in sharp contrast to the E&O insurers. If the offer is accepted, Centrewrite, a Lloyd's company, will protect E&O insurers from any further litigation. Christopher Stockwell, chairman of the Lloyd's Names Association Working Party, the umbrella organisation for all action groups, said: "Its wrong. E&O underwriters get capped, but names do not."

Mr Middleton said he had the greatest respect for action group chairmen involved in the settlement initiative. "I know that if they feel they can't accept the offer then it is because it is in the best interest of their names," he said. Names have until the end of January to accept the offer; if they do, it will lead to the issuance of a special credit from which various deductions will be made before leftovers are handed to names.

Pennington, page 25
Take the money? page 27

Tax rises may dent pace of recovery

BY JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE recovery could pause next year when the huge package of Lamont and Clarke tax increases hits the economy, the Treasury's chief economic adviser acknowledged.

Alan Budd told the Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee that his forecast for economic growth next year of 2½ per cent had factored in the possibility of such a setback. But he added that the recovery had so far been "remarkably smooth" and said the Treasury believed growth would continue despite tax increases coming into effect in April.

Tax rises announced in March by Norman Lamont and by Kenneth Clarke last week mean the economy will have to absorb the effect of £8.4 billion in higher taxes next year and £15.2 billion in 1995. Taking all the tax increases announced this year together, the tax cuts of the 1980s have all been reversed.

It was also revealed that the Treasury has based its forecasts for public spending on an assumption of a 2.75 million headline unemployment total, lower than the 3 million assumed last year. According to Joseph Halligan, a senior Treasury official, this in itself allowed a £750 million cut in forecast spending on unemployment before changes to benefit payments. In October, unemployment fell by 49,000 to 2.86 million.

The Treasury also said that it expects a net funding requirement next year in the "high 30s" of billions of pounds.

Sterling briefly breached the $1.50 level yesterday, but then dipped back to end at $1.4952. The pound's trade-weighted index closed at 81.6, down from Monday's finish at 82, and sterling lost nearly a pfennig against the mark.

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS TODAY

D DAY

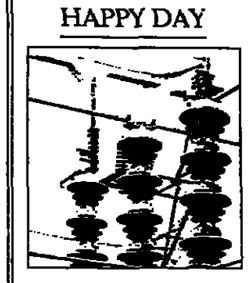


British Gas looks less likely to be broken up but more likely to face stiff competition, when its fate is announced soon
Page 30

SAD DAY

BT described a Franco-German state telecoms alliance as "a sad day for Europe"
Page 24
Pennington 25

HAPPY DAY



Two more electricity distributors raised dividends by double figure amounts. One of them is offering rebates
Page 25

DAY TO DAY

The rush of new companies seeking a stock market quote continues. Three more take the plunge.
Page 26

Filing lists Viacom buying

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

SUBSTANTIAL numbers of Viacom shares were bought by the company's chairman and his associates in the two months before and in the three weeks following the launch of its bid for Paramount Communications.

Documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission show that the Chicago-based pinball and video games maker WMS Industries, where Sumner Redstone, the Viacom chairman, owns 24.9 per cent, bought around 500,000 Viacom B shares at an estimated cost of $27 million.

A spokesman for WMS was not immediately available for comment. A Viacom spokesman said yesterday: "Neither Mr Redstone, nor Viacom nor anyone associated with Viacom had any knowledge of these purchases until now."

The price of Viacom's shares was a crucial part of the overall valuation in the early days of its offer for Paramount, announced on September 12.

The WMS purchases were made in the last week of September and the first two weeks of October, giving it a 2.5 per cent stake and representing 20 per cent of the total trading volume during that three-week period.

At the time, Paramount was the subject of a higher offer from QVC Network. Louis Nicastro, the WMS chairman, is reported to have said that he thought Viacom a good long-term buy and never consulted or informed Mr Redstone of his purchases.

Viacom said that Mr Redstone does not sit on the WMS board and takes no part in its decisions.

Filings show that between June 4 and August 4, Mr Redstone and associates at his National Amusements Inc company, which owns 70 per cent of Viacom, bought almost a million shares in Viacom. Mr Redstone or National Amusements also bought 526,700 Viacom A and B shares in the two months ending August 20.

MAM calling tune in £575m bid for LWT

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

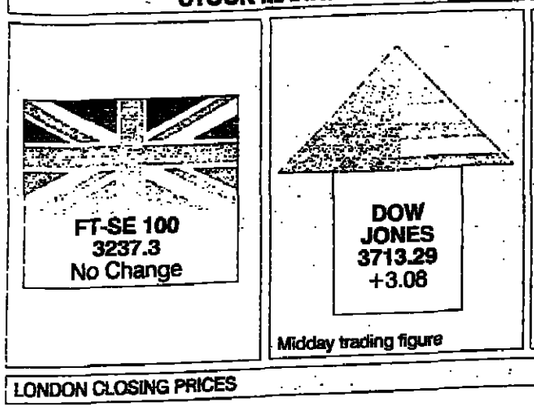
MERCURY Asset Management, the fund manager, could decide the fate of LWT (Holdings), the London weekend television contractor now fighting off a £575 million hostile takeover bid from Granada Group.

MAM has a 17.4 per cent stake in Granada and 14.7 per cent of LWT, so the group will win whatever the outcome of the bid. But market sources think MAM would prefer to avoid the embarrassment of a decision either way and is likely to be pushing Granada to go a few pence more and sew up an agreed bid.

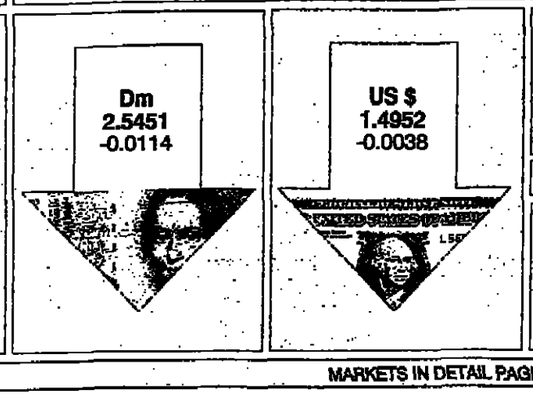
Sources close to MAM, therefore, were yesterday playing down reports that it had already chosen to throw its weight behind the bid at the current level of 561p in new Granada shares. LWT slipped 8p to 578p by last night's close as the market still looked for a slightly higher offer.

Granada has turned up the pressure on LWT by the unusual step of issuing its formal offer document hours after the bid was declared. It arrived at institutions yesterday, shortening the normal bid period by a week or so. First closing date is December 29, and the defence document must go out within a fortnight.

STOCK MARKET



THE POUND



GOLD

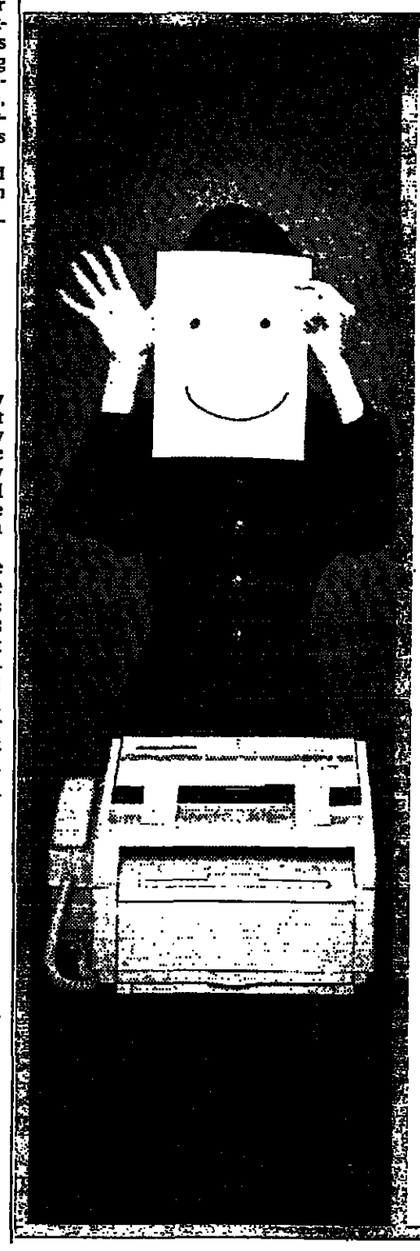
$375.35 per oz

BRENT CRUDE

$13.80 per barrel (Jan)
6pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES

MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 26, SHARE PRICES PAGE 29



The new OKI plain paper fax.
Plainly less expensive.

With a plain paper fax your faxes don't curl or fade, so they can be re-transmitted, written on and put on file, without being copied first. The OKIFAX 1000 is a compact, true plain paper memory fax that is packed with the latest technology. It produces high quality images printing at a very quick 4 pages per minute. And yet it is both easy to use and economical to run. At only £1449 plus VAT (RRP), it's plainly less expensive. For more information on our range of faxes, printers or portable phones, call us on 0800 525585.

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Vallance attacks Franco-German telecom alliance

BY COLIN NARBROUGH AND PHILIP BASSETT

■ The competitive threat to BT posed by a Franco-German joint venture in telecommunications would increase if America's AT&T joins the fray

THE state-owned telecommunications companies of Germany and France have agreed to form a strategic alliance to provide future-oriented services for business in a global market.

Deutsche Telekom and France Télécom unveiled their alliance yesterday at a news conference in Brussels, future home of their joint venture, which aims to achieve 1.5 billion ecu sales in 1995, its first year of operation.

To coincide with the Franco-German announcement, Deutsche Telekom revealed that the alliance was already talking to AT&T, the American telecoms group, and Japan's NTT, with a view to jointly offering services to big international companies.

Iain Vallance, BT chairman, who has been campaigning vigorously to draw attention to the threat the Franco-German partnership poses, told a London conference that the alliance announcement was a "sad day for Europe".

He insisted, however, that BT was unafraid of the competitive threat.

The alliance aims to offer one-stop shopping to streamline and package communications services for companies with operations in several countries. Such tie-ups have long been expected and the Franco-German link-up was well-flagged.

Marcel Roulet, president of France Télécom, and Helmut Ricke, the management board chairman of Deutsche Telekom, signed a memorandum of understanding to seal the 50-50 alliance, which builds on an existing joint subsidiary, Eunetcom. The goal is to create a more powerful team in readiness for the opening of national telecoms markets to competition in 1998, as required by the European Community.

Herr Ricke said: "One thing is certain, development is really starting in the global telecommunications market". He saw the market moving rapidly towards the vision of a global village. The new venture will merge the two companies data communications and other business communications services.

City analysts said that BT had little to fear in the near term from the Franco-German partnership, but they foresaw a greater threat if AT&T is brought into the alliance. BT and AT&T have long been viewed as major combatants in the global telecoms market.

BT, which is pressing for early liberalisation of the European telecommunications market, attacked the move, which it regards as fundamentally anti-competitive.

Re-emphasising that the European market should be fully liberalised earlier than the EC's planned timetable of 1998, Mr Vallance said that developments across the Channel were now causing him concern, especially since proposals for full liberalisation had not yet even been tabled.

He attacked Brussels' vision of the telecommunications industry as "disturbingly utility-based", and said that Brussels involvement was now beginning to resemble "supra-national regulation of a set of national network monopolies" rather than a global regulatory vision, which was what was required for the future.

Mr Vallance said that "by delaying competition, the Community threatens to drive us as Europeans back into the first age" of telecommunications, before liberalisation.

Pennington, page 25



Robert Crandall said a strike lost 1.3 million passengers

American Airlines heads for huge loss

BY PHILIP ROBINSON AND COLIN NARBROUGH

AMERICAN Airlines, battling for better access to Heathrow, gave warning yesterday that it will make a big loss in the final three months of this year and dive into the red for the year as a whole.

Robert Crandall, American chairman, said the five-day strike by 21,000 cabin crew lost it 1.3 million passengers and will cost a net $160 million in the fourth quarter.

The fall in post-tax earnings means the third straight year of losses for American, which went $935 million into the red last year. In the final three months, the airline, America's largest, lost $200 million.

Meanwhile, United Airlines, America's second biggest carrier, has called on London and Washington to take a step-by-step approach to end the deadlock over liberalising air services between the UK and US, rather than risk a breakdown.

America has threatened to prevent British Airways from increasing access to the huge US domestic market via its stake in USAir to raise the pressure for a "fair" deal in bilateral air links, with more access to Heathrow, Europe's main hub airport, the prize sought by US carriers.

BA said UAL's position appeared to be broadly in line with its own. It too wanted an open skies deal, but considered a "phased introduction" the best course.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Two more lenders cut mortgage rates

ABBEY National, the second-largest lender, has cut its mortgage rate by 0.25 of a percentage point in response to the half-point cut in base rates two weeks ago. The new rate for borrowers with loans of between £60,000 and £99,999 falls to 7.64 per cent, while the rate for loans above £100,000 is 7.54 per cent. Those with loans of less than £60,000 will pay 7.74 per cent. Rates fall immediately for new borrowers, and from January 10 for existing borowers. The reduction will mean a saving of £8.85 per month for a borrower with a loan of £50,000. Savers' rates are also set to fall.

Alliance & Leicester, the fourth-largest building society has cut its mortgage rate by a slightly larger 0.35 of a percentage point to 7.64 per cent with immediate effect for new borrowers and from the new year for existing borrowers. Midland Bank's new standard rate is 7.74 per cent, a reduction of 0.25 of a percentage point.

Record shares turnover

TURNOVER on the London stock market reached a record during November when trading in domestic and overseas securities reached £110.5 billion, exceeding the previous record of £109.3 billion in August this year. The figure was bolstered by the large number of companies seeking a public listing. Trading in UK equities totalled £52.6 billion during November, the busiest month since July 1987, when turnover reached £57.3 billion. Market report, page 26

Tunstall races ahead

PRE-TAX profits at Tunstall Group, the emergency communications and security systems group, advanced 22.3 per cent to £6.47 million in the year to September 30, on turnover ahead 23.7 per cent to £44.8 million. Earnings increased 22.7 per cent to 26.5p a share. An improved final dividend of 4.5p (3.75p) makes a 7p total for the year, up 16.7 per cent on last time. The company has also proposed a one-for-one capitalisation issue. The shares added 20p to 573p.

Border denies bid talk

BORDER Television has taken the opportunity of its interim figures to rein in speculation of a round of further bids for regional ITV companies and denied that the company is in talks to acquire another franchise or to be taken over. Pre-tax profits from Border rose from £519,000 to £802,000, helped by lower redundancy costs — at the operating level they were 4 per cent higher at £937,000. The interim dividend is up from 1.3p to 1.6p.

A 57 fall for Heinz

NET profits H J Heinz, the food company, dropped 57 per cent in the second quarter once assets sales of $127 million are stripped out: the net figure fell to $66 million ($154 million). At the operating level, before tax and interest, profits dropped 16 per cent from $261 million to $220 million. Sales for the quarter were up 4 per cent to $1.8 billion and for the half year, by 3 per cent to $3.4 billion. Heinz shares eased 50 cents on Wall Street to $36.5, close to its low for the year.

AG Holdings at £2.9m

AG HOLDINGS, which came to the market in June, reported pre-tax profits of £2.9 million in the year to July 31, on turnover of £15.9 million. This compares with a profit of £1.25 million in the six months to July 31, 1992. The company's products are mainly used for storing, transporting and dispensing cable and wire rope. Earnings stood at 11.4p a share for the year and there is a proposed dividend of 2p, as forecast in the group's listing particulars.

Good year for Eurocopy

EUROCOPY, the photocopier supplier, boosted full-year pre-tax profits by 54 per cent to £2.62 million. The company said its £3.74 million cash pile leaves it well-placed for bolt-on acquisitions. Michael Armitage, finance director, added that as the country moved out of recession more companies would replace aging office equipment. In the year to September 30, earnings per share were 3.60p (2.32p). A final dividend of 1.2p makes a 1.70p total (1.60p).

Few takers for venture cash hoard

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S biggest venture capital group, 3i, has £800 million of medium and long-term funds available for investment, but claims there is little sign of demand.

Profits doubled in the six months to September 30 to £37.6 million, helped by a 15.6 per cent increase in dividend flows from 3i's 3,500 investments to £51.4 million. The company made 264 investments worth £138 million in the six month period.

Profits were also assisted by a 12 per cent reduction in operating costs and a £13.7 million turnround from net interest payable of £11.3 million to net interest receivable of £2.4 million, as borrowing came down and interest rates fell.

Sir George Russell, the new chairman, said: "We have yet to see much evidence of demand picking up for our capital, particularly for financing capital projects in the UK."

Net asset value has increased by 10 per cent since the end of March to 618p a share. 3i is paying a 4.7p interim, up 42 per cent.

UK citizens 'need two pensions'

BY JANET BUSH

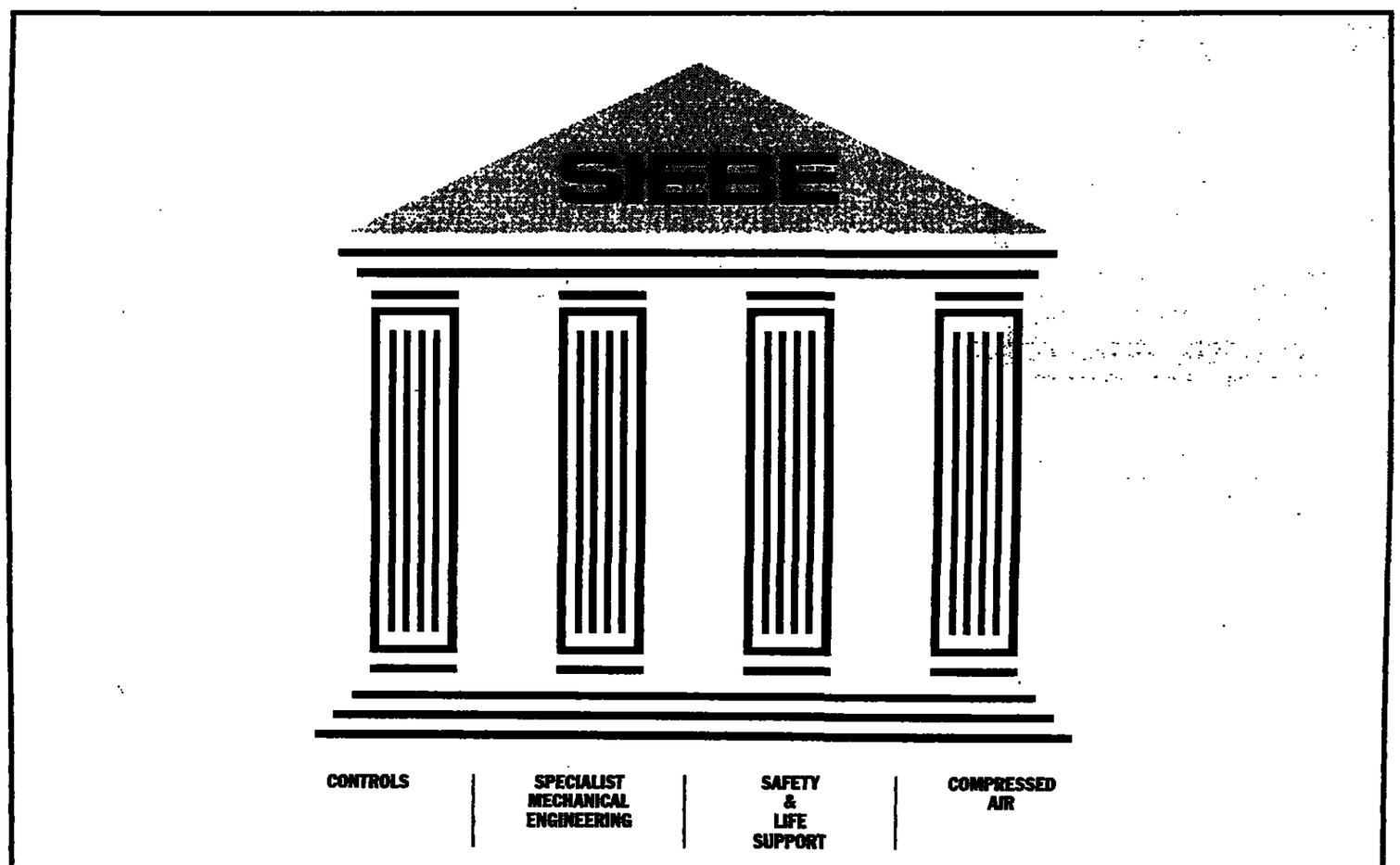
ALL British citizens should own two pensions — one from the state, the other from the private sector — according to a report by Frank Field, the Labour chairman of the Select Committee on Social Security, and Jonathan Hoffman of Credit Suisse First Boston.

The report, contained in a book called "A Recovery Strategy for Europe", further argues that the mixed pensions system that has been evolving in Britain is "the strongest on offer" in the EC. The mixed system involves a universal state scheme run in harness with funded company or personal pension schemes.

The authors says restrictions on private pensions, rife in continental Europe, must be dismantled if governments are to tackle their public sector deficits in the long term.

Apart from helping budget deficits, the authors say liberalising pension assets and developing fully portable private pensions will boost growth by promoting labour mobility and radically improving the allocation of savings.

☐ *A Recovery Strategy for Europe is published by Federal Trust, price £9.95.*



"These results are particularly gratifying at a time when many of the market places in which we trade are in recession. More than ever they are the result of delivering a Siebe quality product which the customer wants, on time and at the right price. They also demonstrate the wisdom of building up our presence in the fast-growing process controls sector and in this regard our United States operations are especially important."

Barrie Stephens, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Results for the six months to September 30, 1993	1993	1992	% change
Turnover (£m)	895.3	757.3	+18.2
Profit before tax (£m)	94.2	80.3	+17.3
Earnings per share (pence)	13.6	11.7	+16.2
Dividend per share (pence)	3.66	3.3275	+10.0
Gearing (%)	56.2	68.7	-12.5

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☐ Forte's Ciga deal shrouded in Milanese fog ☐ Oftel outlook too domestic ☐ Why Lloyd's settlement is the only offer in town

A not-so-easy Italian job

☐ IF ONLY because of his ancestry, Rocco Forte must still be favourite to take over the management of Ciga, the Italian-based luxury hotel empire controlled by the Aga Khan, but it would appear that the UK's largest hotel enterprise is not having matters all its own way.

According to reports emanating from Italy, Host Marriott, the Maryland-based combine that disclosed its interest in Ciga only a matter of weeks ago, is coming up fast, although, Italy being Italy, no-one seems quite sure on which rail.

Back in mid-October, Forte let it be known that, following talks with Mediobanca, the Milanese merchant bank that is attempting to restructure the heavily indebted Ciga chain, a deal was under way.

In line with Mediobanca's proposed reconstruction of Ciga, Forte would inject £33 million cash, along with certain of its own luxury hotels valued at £125 million, into an Italian operating company in return for a majority interest.

Ciga's bank debt, so the theory went, would be transferred into a property holding company in which the operating company would take a 15 per cent stake.

Speculation subsequently had it that Hyatt Hotels, led by Jay Pritzker, had shown interest and, late last month, Host Marriott declared that it was holding discussions with Ciga "regarding a possible acquisition".

All went quiet but word — albeit unconfirmed — has filtered out of Italy that, at a little *tête á tête* in Milan last Friday, certain parties took the view that a deal with Marriott could well be the preferred option.

Advisers to Forte pour scorn on such tales and point out that Forte is the only company carrying out due diligence enquiries. Mediobanca, so it is said, has yet to meet Marriott.

Out of the fog of Milan, speculation has it that Marriott has made a superior offer, although quite how superior is uncertain. It is thought that Marriott is prepared to shell out funds faster than Forte, although whether the funds shelled out would be significantly higher is a moot point.

In view of the scale of Ciga's debts — estimated at L1,011 billion (£420 million) — and the chain's losses of L110 billion (L60 billion) for the first half of 1993, a little due diligence on the part of Marriott would presumably not go amiss, bearing in mind that Marriott has precious little, if any, experience of operating in Italy.

Marriott, it may be recalled, has only just emerged from its own financial crisis: the solution being the creation of a "twin" company arrangement.

Ciga currently operates 35 of Europe's most exclusive hotels, including the Danieli in Venice, and was the driving force behind the development of Sardinia's Costa Smeralda. When Forte originally disclosed its plans, City analysts described the amalgam as a potential "dream ticket". Let us hope there is no rude awakening.

BT has giants to kill abroad

☐ FREE TRADE and competition have different meanings in continental Europe, *vide* the hard-won provisions of Blair House II. In the telecommunications business, they mean two state monopolies can combine to attack markets in the rest of the world without opening their own. Britain has unilaterally engineered one of the world's most open telecoms markets — an easy early target. Yet the Government agreed the Community decision not to force open state monopoly markets before 1997. Not much might happen then. Meantime, the playing field slopes steeply down towards this side of the Channel.



Yesterday's agreement between Deutsche Bundespost Telekom, the German state monopoly, and France Telecom, the French state monopoly, will create a merged business and data services combine with turnover of about £1.1 billion. More suspiciously, the partners plan to inject £750 million of investment over five years to become Europe's "global player", an ambition commercial firms might have to pace more carefully. The new grouping is already negotiating for America's AT&T to join their party. That seems to sew up a lot of potential domestic competition unless someone says *non*, which seems unlikely.

Britain was right to introduce competition unilaterally. Free trade need not be mutual to be beneficial, as consumers can testify. More competition from overseas utilities will soon provide even more choice in cable telephone and entertainment. Liberalisation has also forced BT, in particular, to be much sharper and more innovative than state monopolies. BT is a formidable potential competitor abroad precisely because its skills have been honed by stiff competition at home. Even so, a policy that puts consumers first should pay compensating attention to interests of domestic firms hobbled by restrictions abroad. The government does not appear to care much what happens in the rest of the Community. There should be limits to such smugness. Subsidised competition in some markets, though just as good for consumers in the short run, is unhealthy. Promoting competition at home by preventing BT entering new markets looks ever more questionable. It should certainly not be extended to cover markets created by new technology, such as video-on-demand, that were not thought of when BT was barred from broadcasting down phone lines until the next century. Innovation is vital for strong international competitors, and must be allowed a return.

I name this ship 'Half a Loaf'

THE SPECTRE of the Outhwaite case, in which those names who went to court won a famous victory, hangs over Lloyd's attempt to make peace with its aggrieved underwriting members. Errors and omissions insurers knew they must offer something substantial. Names on the worst syndicates reckon that is nothing like what they might have to pay at the end of legal actions. Reactions of action group spokesmen also carry emotional overtones. Lloyd's brokers, legally unassailable but profitable accomplices to some of the worst malpractices, are not contributing on a scale to reflect their corporate wealth or moral responsibility.

That Outhwaite precedent is, however, dangerous for all sides, revolving round an aberration by a normally highly competent underwriter. The many outstanding or putative cases are different and cover a wide spectrum from aggravated bad luck to systematic incompetence, regulatory failure and, to some people's thinking, something near conspiracy against the interests of underwriting names. Chances of legal redress vary equally widely, in winning cases, the likely scale of damages and agents' ability to pay.

Once names ponder their individual offers over a less than festive season, they will come to differing conclusions. The majority with the least demonstrably strong legal cases or further back in the legal queue will have the strongest incentive to accept. But it would amaze if the name of Lloyd's is not dragged embarrassingly through the courts on a few cases. For all its desire to get on with the future, Lloyd's new regime should accept that, and be firm with the E and O insurers, when deciding the quorum for the scheme to go ahead.



HUW EVANS

David Jones, chief executive of South Wales Electricity, left, and Andrew Walker, who succeeds him next month

Double-figure rises fuel power firms' payout race

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor

TWO more electricity distribution companies have fuelled the dividend race in the sector's interim results season with increases in payments to shareholders of well into double figures.

Midlands Electricity boosted the payment in the six months to September 30 by 20.5 per cent to 7.65p, although the company has indicated that some of the increase was to rebalance the half-way and full-year payments and suggested a rise this financial year of 14.75 per cent.

In this, Midlands has followed the example of Eastern, the first of the 12 distributors in England and Wales to report, which has already suggested that a 20 per cent higher interim figure will translate into a 14.6 per cent rise for the whole year.

South Wales Electricity has forgone any element of rebalancing and increased its half-way payment by 13.6 per cent to 7.5p, while eschewing any indications of the level of the full-year payment. But market-watchers expect a corresponding increase for the year as a whole.

The dividend rise, and a powerful financial performance at the interim stage, sent Midlands shares and those elsewhere in the sector sharply ahead against the market trend. Midlands rose 20p to 673p. But South Wales failed to share in the euphoria. Its shares slid 3p to 698p.

Midlands is handing back £20 million, or £10 a typical customer, from next month and claims that, including this, prices have fallen by 10 per cent in real terms over the past year, making the company the lowest-cost electricity distributor in England and Wales. Bryan Townsend, the chairman, said the rebate was "the simplest, most effective way of getting money back to the customer."

The company ended the half-way stage with £88 million in the bank, although this will reduce by the financial year end.

Midlands raised pre-tax profits from £66.7 million to £89.5 million in the first half, helped by the non-recurrence of £10 million of restructuring costs last time for the retail side. The profits rise was helped by a 2.3 per cent increase in electricity units distributed, partly because of the colder summer and partly through economic recovery in the region. Mr Townsend said: "We are undoubtedly coming out of the recession, albeit slowly, and I think the West Midlands is tending to lead."

Wynford Evans, the South Wales chairman, dismissed any rebate as "a Christmas box" for customers. His company is relying on an estimated 6 per cent price fall in real terms as it passes on savings on costs and electricity bought from the generators.

South Wales, helped by a 1.7 per cent increase in units distributed, pushed pre-tax profits ahead from £37.6 million to £44.4 million in the first half. Mr Evans said he expected the price rise over the next year to be held to the rate of inflation at most.

South Wales, the first of the distributors to have wiped out all the debt imposed at the 1989 privatisation, ended the first half with £67.6 million cash in the bank, helped by free cash flow of £33.4 million despite £25 million of government debt repaid.

Tempus, page 27

Charter keen to buy engineering group

By Neil Bennett

CHARTER, the industrial group that bought its independence from Minorco this summer, is searching for an acquisition worth £270 million or more in which to invest its growing cash reserves.

Jeffrey Herbert, chief executive, is keen to buy an international engineering group as a fourth leg to the group and is looking outside Charter's rail track components, building materials and mining interests for an acquisition.

Charter has net cash of £147 million even after spending £235 million to buy back its own shares from Minorco, the international resources group, in June. Mr Herbert is also keen to issue shares for acquisitions to broaden the group's equity base, and would be happy to borrow up to £120 million for expansion.

The group generated most of its cash in the sale of its 38 per cent stake in John Matthey this year. The disposal caused a 17 per cent fall in pre-tax profits in the half year to September 30 to £31.3 million as the group was deprived of any income from JM.

Operating profits from Charter's on-going businesses rose 5 per cent to £19.5 million. The group also made a £2.6 million profit on the sale of its limestone quarry during the period. It is holding its half-year dividend at 7p.

Mr Herbert said the US coalminers' strike had cost the group £2 million in the half-year. NMS, which supplies mining equipment, was hit by a fall in demand, and Charter also had to pay for extra security at its eight non-unionised mines in Indiana which are still operating.

Tempus, page 27

Smith New Court profit surges 367%

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

A 367 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to £31.3 million for the six months to October 29, bodes well for staff bonuses at Smith New Court, the securities house, Michael Marks, its chief executive, said yesterday.

Mr Marks said: "I have no problem with paying large bonuses. The recipient will have earned a return for shareholders already." Although SNC does not pay bonuses until June, after the May year-end, Mr Marks said that if current trends continue, the bonuses are likely to be attractive.

He added: "Markets have been kind to everybody in the business." In SNC's case, he said the increase in profits reflected strong revenues right across the board, with 60 per cent from overseas. The company had a particularly strong first half in all South East Asian markets and "a super six months in New York". The £41.2 million rights issue, completed in August, was a success with 94 per cent acceptances. Together with the proceeds from the exercise of warrants and share options, the issue raised £45.1 million in cash, which is to be used to finance the next phase of the group's expansion, particularly into China and the Indian sub-Continent.

As a result of the cash-raising exercise, and net retentions for the six months, Smith's capital and reserves increased from £109.7 million at May 7 to £175.3 million.

Earnings per share soared from 6.1p to 25p. The interim dividend has been doubled to 2p, which the company said is designed in part to reduce the disparity between the interim and final dividends.

Tempus, page 27

US and Far East offset depressed European markets

Pound's decline boosts Siebe's profits

By Carl Mortished

CURRENCY gains helped Siebe, the industrial controls group, to raise pre-tax profits from £80 million to £94 million in the six months to September 30.

Siebe, which makes electronic control units for air conditioning and heating systems, earns over 92 per cent of its sales abroad and the fall in sterling against the dollar and the mark added £117 million to turnover in the first half and £10 million to profit.

The company is raising the interim dividend to 3.66p per share, up 10 per cent from last year after a 16 per cent rise in earnings per share to 13.6p.

Barrie Stephens, the chairman, who is stepping down as chief executive next year, said that some European markets were down as much as 20 per cent and not expected to come back until well into next year. In contrast, North American and Far Eastern markets were strong with the exception of Japan where he expected to see a recovery in mid-1994.



Stephens: stepping down

Acquisitions brought in sales of £26 million and operating profits of £1.6 million during the half year. Siebe acquired Eberle and Schmidt Armaturen, German manufacturers of electronic controls, last April for £25 million.

Last month, Siebe raised £184 million in a rights issue to fund the £84 million purchase of Eckardt, another German automation and process control business. Over 85 per cent of the purchase price for Eckardt is not payable until next October.

A strong performance in North America, which now accounts for 49 per cent of group turnover, boosted profits in the Controls division from £78 million to £97 million during the period but operating margins fell half a point to 15 per cent due to the effect of acquisitions. Improved market share in North America outweighed difficult conditions in Europe where Siebe was hit by recession in the automotive sector.

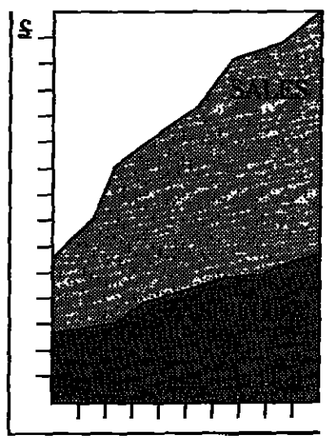
Sales declined by 19 per cent in Siebe's Specialist Mechanical Engineering division which sells automotive and garage equipment products. Operating margins slipped from 8.5 per cent to 5 per cent causing profits to fall from £8.5 million to £4.8 million.

Siebe had gearing of 56 per cent at the end of September, down from 68 per cent in the previous year. The company generated £44 million in cash flow during the year, contributing to cash deposits at the end of September of £219 million while net borrowings were £478 million.

Tempus, page 27

IS SHORTAGE OF CASH HOLDING BACK YOUR BUSINESS?

Every successful business reaches the point in its development when it comes up against what feels like a brick wall. Orders are healthy but where is the cash to finance those orders? The trouble is that the more you sell, the more money you have tied up in unpaid invoices.



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Problems in store for supermarkets as broker downgrades

THE credibility of the big supermarket chains slumped to a new low among City investors after Cazenove, the broker, downgraded the sector.

Cazenove has been telling clients that the rest of the supermarket chains will now have to follow the lead of Argyll when making depreciation charges against their property portfolios. Most of them, it tells clients, have been too conservative in the past and now face some big write-offs during the next couple of years.

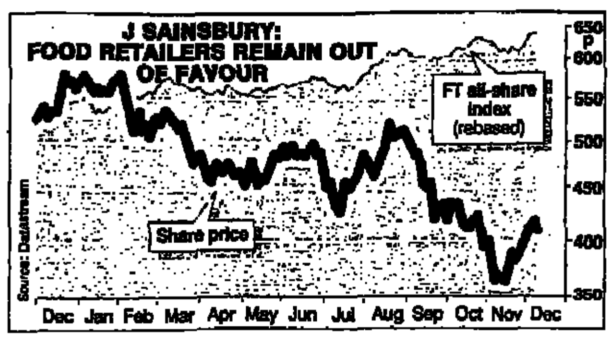
Worst affected is expected to be **Tesco**, down 3p at 195p. Cazenove yesterday chopped its profit forecast for the current year to February by

STOCK MARKET

£90 million to £520 million. At least £80 million of this is believed to relate to property write-offs. For next year it is said to have reduced its estimate from £650 million to £500 million. **J Sainsbury** also fell 9p to 408p, with Cazenove believed to be looking for profits of £715 million for this year and next. Losses were also seen in **Argyll**, 1p to 257½, **Iceland**, 6½p to 147½p, and **Shoprite**, 1p to 158p.

The rest of the equity market had a lacklustre session. An early dip in the future prompted a bout of profit taking in the cash market as investors took advantage of the recent strong run. But the weight of selling fell short of market-makers' expectations and prices recovered in late trading. The FT-SE 100 index, down almost 19 points at one stage, eventually finished unchanged at its record high of 3,237.3. A total of 689 million shares changed hands.

BAA Group, the independent airport operator, jumped 11p to 975p. The shares have been recommended as one of UBS's naps for 1994. But UBS has switched from a buy to a hold for **Medeva**, down 7p at 132p. The shares have been strong on bid speculation and talk of flu vaccine shortages. But UBS says the company is



unlikely to benefit from the increased demand for vaccine because of the continuous change in the strains of the virus. It has cut its profit forecast by £5 million to £40 million for 1993 and by £7 million to £48 million for 1994. Talk of a large seller also left **Wellcome** 22p lower at 666p, while rival **Glaxo** fell 12p to 683p.

Great Universal Stores lost 14p at 584p after a bearish comment from NatWest Securities. Claims that Smith New Court, the broker, is about to downgrade the stores sector were hotly denied. Stock shortages may have been behind the burst of activity in **Williams Holdings**, which closed 6p better at 346p.

Midlands Electricity climbed 22p to 675p, celebrating a 20 per cent hike in the interim to 7.65p and a 34 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £89.5 million. The rest of the electricity distributors also reacted. There were also gains for **Eastern**, 11p to 646p, **East Midland**, 7p to 616p, **London**, 8p to 628p, **Manweb**, 21p to 699p, **Northern**, 13p to 674p, **Norweb**, 11p to 688p, **Seeboard**, 12p to 695p, **Southern**, 15p to 658p, **South West**, 14p to 656p and **Yorkshire**, 11p to 658p.

Smith New Court fell 11p to 411p on profit-taking after pre-tax profits surged from £6.7 million to £31.3 million.

Bemrose, the printer, climbed 42p to 427p after issuing details of a one-for-four rights issue at 325p to raise £19.5 million.

Still reeling from this week's profits warning, shares of **Saatchi & Saatchi** fell a further 11p to 146p.

Tottenham Hotspur closed unchanged at 105p. Deputy chairman Tony Berry has sold a parcel of 500,000 shares to chairman Alan Sugar. This reduces Mr Berry's holding to 300,000 shares and increases Mr Sugar's to 8.15 million.

NFC, the transport operator, fell 6½p to 234p ahead of full-year figures later today which are expected to contain a one-for-six rights issue to raise £200 million.

☐ **GILT-EDGED** spent a cautious session before today's auction, with investors worried about the level of cover for the £3 billion issue. The March series of the long gilt eased three ticks to £117 13/32, with 33,000 contracts completed.

Prices at the longer end of the cash market fared a little better than the rest of the market, with Treasury 9 per cent 2012 hardening £1/16 to £123 15/32. In shorts Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 was unchanged at £115 3/16.

MICHAEL CLARK

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND

US $	1.4952 (-0.0038)
German mark	2.5451 (-0.0114)
Exchange index	81.6 (-0.4)

Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100	3237.3 (same)
Dow Jones	3713.29 (+3.08)*
Nikkei Avg	16903.49 (+63.11)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	5½%
3-month Interbank	5 5/16-5 3/16%
US Federal Funds	2 7/8%*
3-month Treas Bills	3.10-3.09%*
Long Bond	6.18%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.4920*	£:$	1.4915
$:DM	1.7056*	£:DM	2.5431
$:SWfr	1.4655*	£:SWfr	2.1858
$:Ffr	5.8695*	£:Ffr	8.7535
$:Yen	107.59*	£:Yen	160.46
£:SDR	1.0761	£:ECU	1.3229

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):

AM 374.35	PM 376.90
Close	376.10-376.60
New York	
Comex	375.15-375.65*

OIL

Brent Crude ..... $13.80 per bbl (Jan)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI..141.8 Oct (1.4%) Jan 1987=100

* Denotes midday trading price

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Abbey National	460p (+15p)
Barclays	626p (+12p)
HSBC	788p (+11p)
Swire Pacific 'A'	485p (+11p)
Takeda Chem	720p (+10p)
Caffyns	388p (+10p)
Trinity Intl	415p (+11p)
Bemrose	427p (+42p)
BAA	975p (+11p)
BSS Group	495p (+11p)
FALLS:	
Taunton Cider	167p (-20p)
Chubb Sec	365p (-19p)
Inchcape	526p (-13p)
Allied Colloids	228p (-10p)
Charter	719p (-12p)
Pearson	575p (-11p)
Courtaulds	446p (-14p)
Siebe	566p (-20p)
Wellcome	666p (-22p)

Closing Prices Page 29

Three more companies join rush to market

By Philip Pangalos

THE rush of companies seeking a stock market quote resumed as details emerged from three more groups looking to tap the buoyant market for funds.

The City will see the return of Vic Fatah, best known in the package holiday and aviation industry for his previous involvement with the Redwing joint venture with British Airways that was sold to Owners Abroad in 1990. Inspirations, the integrated travel and package holiday group where Mr Fatah is chief executive, is to join the Unlisted Securities Market through a placing at 100p, capitalising the group at £23 million and putting the shares on an adjusted price/earnings multiple of ten. Total net proceeds for the company are expected to be £5.22 million, with 28.3 per cent of the enlarged share capital being placed.

The group, whose interests span tour operating, aviation brokerage and travel agency, was started in 1991 and has a long-term contract with AT Mays, Britain's fourth largest travel agency, which has 328 UK outlets and is owned by Carlson of America. Inspirations plans to acquire or start at least 50 outlets by the end of next year, to be owned by Inspirations but run under the AT Mays brand.

Inspirations made pre-tax profits of £2.5 million in the 11 months to end-September, on turnover of £118.4 million. Dealings are due to start on December 13.

Nelson Hurst, the insurance broker formed by a £30 million buyout in 1991, is also set to join the market next week through a £35.3 million placing and intermediaries offer at 140p, capitalising the group at £63.3 million. The group was bought by management from Citicorp, which provided loans to the company.

Nelson Hurst will receive about £30.6 million from the sell-off, which will be used to repay loans.

Directors are buying shares in the sale and about 10 per cent of 7.37 million shares on offer to the public are being reserved for employees. The shares are on a pro forma earnings multiple of 14 at the issue price, with a multiple of 8.8 on forecast earnings and a notional gross dividend yield of 5 per cent.

Applications must be in by December 10. Dealing is due to start on December 16.

London Industrial, the service-led property investment company, is coming to the market through a placing at 320p a share, capitalising the group at £29.3 million. The placing, by Smith New Court, is expected to raise about £14 million of new money.

The company intends to recommend a final dividend of 5p a share for the year to end-March 1994, which would amount to a total net dividend of 7p for the full year, giving a notional gross dividend yield of 2.73 per cent at the placing price. Dealings are expected to start on December 15.

JOAN RUSSELL/GUZELIAN



Henry Roberts, chief executive of Northumbrian Fine Foods, which made first-half pre-tax profits of £104,100 in the six months to September 30 (£1.06 million loss). There is again no interim dividend (nil).

WALL STREET

Dow fails to hold early peak

New York — Blue chips began to lose their early gains at midday. The Dow Jones industrial average, which had risen to new highs to hit 3,724, was up 3.08 points at 3,713.29. US Treasuries struggled, with the long bond down 4/32 to yield 6.18 per cent.

☐ **Tokyo** — Shares ended modestly higher in volatile trade, with the Nikkei average closing at 16,903.49, up 63.11. An estimated 220 million shares were traded.

☐ **Hong Kong** — Afternoon profit-taking trimmed more than half the early gains, leaving the Hang Seng index up 126.88 points at 9,736.57.

☐ **Frankfurt** — The Dax closed 0.16 per cent lower at 2,115.46.

☐ **Sydney** — The all ordinaries index closed up 20.2 points at 2,073.9.

☐ **Singapore** — Shares finished at a record high with the Straits Times Industrials index at 2,163.54, up 16.00 points. *(Reuter)*

	Dec 7 midday	Dec 6 close
AMP Inc	60¾	60
AMR Corp	65¾	65¾
Abbott Labs	29¾	30
Aetna Life	61¾	61¾
Ahmanson (HF)	19	18¾
Air Prod & Chem	44¾	45
Albertson's	24¾	24¾
Alcan Aluminum	20¾	20¾
Alco Standard	51¾	50¾
Allied Signal	75¾	75¾
Alum Co of Am	68¾	68¾
Amax Gold Inc	6¾	6¾
Amerada Hess	45¾	45¾
Amer Brands	34¾	34¾
Amer Cyanamid	51¾	51¾
Amer El Power	36¾	36¾
Amer Express	31¾	31¾
Amer Genl Corp	28¾	29
Amer Home Pr	63	63¾
Amer Intl	91	90
Amer Stores	42¾	42¾
Amer T & T	54¾	55¾
Ameritech	78¾	78¾
Amoco	52¾	53¾
Anheuser-Busch	50¾	50¾
Apple Computer	31¾	32¾
Archer Daniels	22¾	22¾
Arkla	7¾	7¾
Armco	6¾	6
Armstrng Wrld	47¾	46¾
Asarco	21	21¾
Ashland Oil	32¾	33
Atl Richfield	103¾	104
Auto Data Pro	55¾	55
Avery Dennison	29¾	29¾
Avon Products	49¾	49¾
Baker Hughes	19¾	19¾
Baltim Gas & El	24¾	25
Banc One	39	38¾
BankAmerica	45	45¾
Bank of NY	55¾	55¾
Bankers Tr NY	78¾	79¾
Barnett Banks	41¾	41¾
Bausch & Lomb	52¾	52¾
Baxter Intl	22¾	22¾
Becton Dicknsn	35¾	35¾
Bell Atlantic	61	61¾
BellSouth	58¾	58¾
Black & Decker	20¾	20¾
Block (H&R)	40¾	40¾
Boeing	39¾	38¾
Boise Cascade	23¾	23¾
Borden Inc	17¾	17¾
Bristol Myrs Sq	59¾	59¾
Browning Ferris	27¾	25¾
Burlington Nthn	56¾	56¾
CBS	301	302
CNA Financial	76¾	77
CPC Intl	46¾	46¾
CSX	83¾	82¾
Campbell Soup	42¾	42¾
Can Pacific	16¾	16¾
Cptl Cities ABC	636	634¾
Cptl Holdings	37¾	37¾
Carolina Pwr	29¾	29
Caterpillar	85¾	85¾
Central & SW	30¾	30¾
Champion Intl	31¾	30¾
Chase Manhat	34	34¾
Chemical Bk	39¾	39¾
Chevron Corp	87¾	86¾
Chrysler	54¾	54¾
Chubb Corp	81	82¾
Cigna Corp	62¾	63¾
Citicorp	36¾	36¾
Clorox	52¾	52¾
Coastal Corp	27¾	27¾
Coca Cola	43¾	43¾
Colgate-Palmolive	60¾	60¾
Columbia Gas	24¾	24¾
Commonw Ed	28¾	28¾
Compaq Comp	72¾	72¾
Comp Ass Intl	39¾	40
Conagra	26¾	26¾
Cons Edison	32	31¾
Cons Nat Gas	46	45¾
Cons Rail	61¾	61¾
Cooper Inds	50¾	49¾
Corning Inc	26¾	27¾
Crown Cork	40¾	40¾
Dana Corp	54¾	54¾
Dayton Hudson	69¾	70¾
Deere	73¾	73¾
Delta Air Lines	58¾	58¾
Deluxe Corp	35¾	35¾
Detroit Edison	32	32
Digital Equip	35¾	36¾
Dillard Dept St	39¾	40¾
Disney (Walt)	41	41
Dominion Res	44¾	44¾
Donnelley (RR)	29¾	29¾
Dover Corp	59¾	59¾
Dow Chemical	57¾	58¾
Dow Jones	37¾	37¾
Dresser	19¾	18¾
Duke Power	41¾	41¾
Dun & Bradstreet	63¾	63¾
Du Pont	47¾	48
Eastman Kodak	61¾	62¾
Eaton Corp	49¾	49¾

	Dec 7 midday	Dec 6 close
Emerson Elec	57¾	56¾
Engelhard Corp	23¾	23¾
Enron Corp	30	30¾
Entergy Corp	36¾	36¾
Ethyl Corp	18¾	18
Exxon	62¾	62¾
FMC Corp	45¾	45¾
FPL Group	37¾	38
Federal Express	69¾	70¾
Fed Nat Mtge	77¾	77¾
First Chicago	42¾	42¾
First Interstate	60¾	59¾
First Union Rlty	10¾	10¾
Fleet Finl Grp	31¾	31¾
Fluor Corp	41¾	41¾
Ford Motor	62¾	62¾
GTE Corp	36¾	36¾
Gannett	56¾	57¾
Gap Inc Del	41¾	42¾
Gen Dynamics	92¾	93¾
Gen Electric	99¾	100¾
Gen Mills	62¾	62¾
Gen Motors	54¾	54¾
Gen Reinsurance	114	112¾
Gen Signal	34¾	34¾
Genuine Parts	37¾	37¾
Georgia Pac	71¾	72¾
Gillette	62¾	63¾
Glaxo ADR	20¾	20¾
Goodrich (BF)	41¾	41¾
Goodyear Tire	46¾	45¾
Grace (W&R)	38¾	39¾
Gt Atl Pac Tea	27¾	28¾
Great Wstn Fin	19¾	18¾
Halliburton	29¾	28¾
Harcourt General	40¾	40¾
Heinz (HJ)	36¾	36¾
Hercules	108¾	108¾
Hershey Foods	50¾	50¾
Hewlett Packard	76¾	78
Hilton Hotels	48¾	49¾
Home Depot	42	42¾
Homestake Mng	20¾	20¾
Honeywell	33¾	33¾
Household Intl	34¾	34¾
Houston Inds	46	45¾
Humana	16¾	16¾
ITT Corp	89	89
Illinois Tool	37¾	37¾
INCO	24¾	24¾
Ingersoll Rand	38¾	39¾
Inland Steel	31¾	31¾
Intel Corp	59	57¾
IBM	53¾	53¾
Intl Flav & Fr	110¾	110¾
Intl Paper	67¾	67¾
James River Va	19	18¾
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	45¾	45¾
K Mart	22¾	22¾
Kellogg	59¾	60
Kerr-McGee	46¾	46¾
Kimberly-Clark	51¾	51¾
Knight-Ridder	60¾	61
Lilly (Eli)	57¾	57
Limited Inc	18	17¾
Lin Brdcstng	112¾	112¾
Lincoln Nat	43¾	43¾
Litton	66¾	66¾
Liz Claiborne	22¾	22¾
Lockheed Corp	70¾	70
Louisiana Pac	39¾	40¾
MCI Commun	24¾	25¾
Marriott Int	24¾	24¾
Marsh & McLen	80¾	80¾
Masco Corp	35¾	35¾
May Dept St	42¾	42¾
Maytag Corp	16¾	16¾
McCaw Cellular	52	52
McDonalds	58¾	58¾
McDonnell D	116¾	114¾
McGraw Hill	69¾	69¾
Mead Corp	43¾	43
Medtronic	84¾	84¾
Mellon Bk	53¾	53
Melville Corp	40¾	40¾
Merck Inc	34¾	34¾
Merrill Lynch	47¾	48
Minnesota Mine	107¾	108
Mobil Corp	76¾	75¾
Monsanto	71¾	71¾
Morgan (JP)	71¾	72¾
Motorola Inc	93¾	94
Natl Medical	12¾	12¾
Natl Semi	15¾	14¾
Natl Service Ind	24¾	24¾
Navistar Int	23¾	23¾
NBD Bancorp	29¾	29¾
NY Times A	28¾	28¾
Newmont Mng	52¾	53¾
Niag Mohawk	20¾	20¾
Nike B	46	47¾
NL Industries	5¾	5¾
Nordstrom	35	35¾
Norfolk Sthrn	67¾	67¾
Nthn State Pwr	42¾	42¾
Norwest Corp	23¾	23
Nynex Corp	42	42
Occidental Pet	17¾	18
Ohio Edison	22¾	22¾
Oracle Systems	35¾	35¾

	Dec 7 midday	Dec 6 close
Oryx Energy Co	17¾	17¾
Owens Corning	46	46
PNC Financial	29¾	29¾
PPG Industries	70¾	70¾
Paccar Inc	66	67¾
Pacificorp	19	19
Pac Enterprises	24¾	24¾
Pac Gas & Elect	34¾	34¾
Pac Telesis	57¾	57¾
Pall Corp	18¾	19
Panhandle East	21¾	21¾
Paramnt Comm	79¾	79¾
Parker Hannifin	37	36¾
Penney (JC)	53¾	54¾
Pennzoil	55¾	55
Pepsico	40¾	40¾
Pfizer	67¾	67¾
Phelps Dodge	45¾	46¾
Philadel Elec	28¾	28¾
Philip Morris	55¾	55¾
Phillips Pet	28¾	28¾
Pitney Bowes	41¾	41¾
Polaroid	36¾	35¾
PriceCostco	20¾	21
Primerica	42¾	42¾
Procter & Gmbl	57¾	57
Pub Serv E & G	32	32¾
Quaker Oats	74¾	74¾
Ralston Purina	37¾	37¾
Raychem Corp	37¾	39¾
Raytheon	63¾	63¾
Reebok Intl	29¾	30¾
Reynolds Metals	44¾	44¾
Roadway Srvcs	65¾	66¾
Rockwell Intl	34¾	36¾
Rohm & Haas	57¾	54¾
Royal Dutch	104¾	104¾
Rubbermaid	34¾	34¾
Safeco Corp	57¾	57¾
St Paul's Cos	91¾	92
Salomon Inc	45¾	45¾
Santa Fe Pac	21¾	21¾
Sara Lee Corp	26¾	26
Scecorp	20¾	20¾
Schering Plough	66	66¾
Schlumberger	58¾	57¾
Scott Paper	38¾	38¾
Seagram	27	26¾
Sears Roebuck	53¾	52¾
Shell Trans	63	63¾
Sherwin Wlms	33¾	33¾
Skyline Corp	17¾	17¾
Snap-On-Tools	38¾	38¾
Southern Co	43¾	43
Sthwestern Bell	43¾	43¾
Sprint Corp	32¾	33¾
Stanley Works	41¾	41¾
Sun Company	30¾	30¾
Suntrust	44¾	44¾
Supervalu	33	33¾
Syntex Corp	16¾	16¾
Sysco Corp	29¾	29¾
TRW Inc	67	66¾
Tandem Comp	10¾	10¾
Tandy Corp	45¾	45¾
Telecom Corp	2¾	3
Teledyne	26	26
Temple Inland	50¾	50¾
Tenneco	50¾	49¾
Texaco	62¾	62¾
Texas Inst	62¾	62¾
Texas Utilities	42¾	42¾
Textron	54¾	54¾
Time Warner	44¾	44¾
Times-Mirror	34¾	35
Timken	32¾	32¾
Torchmark	44¾	44¾
Toys R Us	41	41¾
Transamerica	57¾	58
Travelers Corp	34¾	34¾
Tribune	59¾	59
Tyco Labs	47¾	47¾
UAL Corp	149¾	150¾
UST Inc	26¾	27
USX Marathon	17¾	16¾
Unilever NV	114¾	114¾
Union Camp	47¾	47¾
Union Carbide	20¾	20¾
Union Pacific	62¾	61¾
Unisys Corp	11¾	11¾
USAIR Group	13¾	13¾
USF&G Corp	13¾	13¾
US Life	37¾	37¾
US West	46¾	47¾
United Tech	61¾	61¾
Unocal Corp	26¾	26¾
Upjohn	30¾	30¾
VF Corp	45¾	44¾
WMX Tech	26¾	25¾
Wal-Mart Stores	27¾	28
Warner-Lambert	64¾	64¾
Wells Fargo	122	121¾
Westinghouse El	14	14¾
Weyerhaeuser	43¾	43¾
Whirlpool	61¾	61¾
Whitman	16	16¾
Winn Dixie	55¾	55¾
Woolworth	23¾	23¾
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	44¾	44
Xerox	81	82

RECENT ISSUES

Abtrust Emrg Econs	95½	+1
Abtrust Emrg Econs Wts	54	+1
Abtrust LLoyds Insce (100)	93	...
Abtrust Lloyds Wrts	37	...
Allders (170)	192	-1
Amicable Smlr Ent (100)	101	...
Angerstein (100)	95	+1
Angerstein Wts	40	...
Azlan (230)	260	-1
BTR Warrants 1998	46	+2
Badgerline (115)	113	-1
Biotrace Intl (130)	148	+3
CLM Insce (100)	101	+1
Canadian Pizza (200)	192	-1
Charles Sidney (110)	102	-3
Cleveland Trust (100)	112	...
Coal Invs	18	...
DFS Furniture (260)	288	+3
Dellan Lloyds Inv (100)	97	...
Emerald Energy (1)	1½	-½
Fenchurch (180)	175	-1
Finsbury U/writing Inv	108	...
For & Col Emerg Mkts Wts	61	+1
For & Col Smaller (100)	100½	...
Gartmore (168)	187	-1
Govett High Inc (100)	105	...
Greyfriars Inv Wrts	11	...
HCG Lloyds Inv Tst (100)	102	...
Harmony Leisure Wts	4½	...
Hiscox Select Ins Fd (100)	108	...
Hozelock (250)	255	-1
Independent Insce (225)	280	...
Johnson Fry Utlies (100)	104	...
Johnson Fry 0 Pf (100)	104¼	+½
Lilliput (135)	124	-2
Litho Supplies (190)	210	+4
London Insce Mkt (100)	108	+½
Masthead Insce (100)	107	+3
Millgate (40)	41	-1
Morgan Grnfl Eqy C (100)	101½	+½
NM Smllr Aust (100)	100	...
NM Smllr Wrrts	44	...
New London Capital (100)	96	...
On Demand Info (78)	112	-7
Roxboro (230)	248	+1
Royal Doulton	208	+1
Ruberoid (150)	161	-1
Smlr Co Inv Tst C (135)	141	...
Syndicate Capital (100)	97	...
Syndicate Capital Wts	38	+4
Throgmorton Pr Inc (100)	102	...
Towry Law (190)	196	+1
Ugland Intl	103	+1
Wigmore Prop Inv (100)	95	...
Wigmore Prop Wrts	40	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Greycoat n/p (12½)	4½	+½
Maddox n/p (1)	½	...
Raglan n/p (100)	3	+½
Rhino n/p (44)	18	...
Scottish Metr n/p (85)	5½	+½
Siebe n/p (485)	64	...
Ugland n/p	1½	...
Wyevale Garden n/p (152)	19	...

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	14,000	Cadbury	853	MEPC	464	Scot Power	1,500
Abbey Natl	5,700	Caradon	1,100	Marks Spr	2,800	Sears	9,600
Alld-Lyons	1,600	Carlton Cm	1,000	NFC	463	Svrn Trent	950
Anglian W	949	Coats Vyla	1,500	NatWst Bk	2,400	Shell Trans	2,500
Argyll Gp	2,200	Cm Union	2,500	Nat Power	3,500	Siebe	5,300
Arjo Wiggn	763	Courtaulds	2,900	Nth Wst W	1,000	SmKl Bch	4,500
AB Foods	557	Enterpr Oil	962	Nthrn Fds	1,000	Smith Nph	1,300
BAA	738	Forte	2,500	P & O	1,700	Sthrn Elec	1,100
BAT Inds	3,700	GRE	1,400	Pearson	1,300	Std Chartd	2,300
BOC	918	GUS	1,500	PowerGen	1,700	Sun Allnce	2,300
BP	6,700	Gen Acc	812	Prudential	3,000	TI Gp	1,400
BT	6,300	Gen Elec	5,700	RMC	288	TSB	3,500
BTR	9,700	Glaxo	4,000	RTZ	2,500	Tesco	9,000
Bk of Scot	1,000	Granada	1,700	Rank Org	375	Thames W	1,500
Barclays	2,400	Grand Met	3,900	Reckitt Col	495	Thrn EMI	2,900
Bass	1,600	Guinness	2,100	Redland	1,300	Tomkins	5,100
Blue Circle	975	HSBC	4,300	Reed Intl	936	Unilever	1,500
Boots	2,500	Hanson	15,000	Rentokil	1,100	Utd Bisc	1,100
Bowater	1,400	ICI	1,000	Reuters	807	Vodafone	1,400
Brit Aero	2,600	Inchcape	2,000	Rolls Royce	4,300	Warburg (SG)	343
Brit Airways	2,800	Kingfisher	869	Ryl Ins	1,600	Wellcome	2,500
Brit Gas	8,500	Ladbroke	3,900	Ryl Bk Scot	1,200	Whitbd 'A'	282
Brit Steel	15,000	Land Secs	673	Sainsbury	4,000	Wlms Hld	3,200
Burmah Cast	472	Legal & Gn	1,000	Schroders	22	Wolseley	619
Cable Wire	3,600	Lloyds Bk	4,500	Scot & New	2,800	Zeneca	761

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	3713.29 (+3.08)
S&P Composite	465.56 (-0.87)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Av'ge	16903.49 (+63.11)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	9736.57 (+126.88)
Amsterdam:	
CBS Tendency	139.8 (+0.1)
Sydney: AO	2073.9 (+20.2)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2115.46 (-3.34)
FT 30 share:	2429.9 (-8.6)
Brussels:	
General	7327.83 (+44.67)
Paris: CAC	607.52 (-1.23)
Zurich: SKA Gen	651.30 (+2.10)
London:	
FT A All-Share	1591.07 (+0.14)
FT 500	1693.63 (-2.61)
FT Gold Mines	231.1 (-0.7)
FT Fixed Interest	128.65 (+0.16)
FT Govt Secs	105.55 (same)
Bargains	31842
SEAQ Volume	689.7m
USM (Datastrm)	150.58 (-0.12)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
December 6	December 17	March 10	March 21

Call options were taken out on 7/12/93: ASDA, Aveson, Biotrace, Courtyard, Dart Group, Dinkie Heel, Irish Life, YJ Lovell, Millgate, Sleepy Kids, Tullow Oil.

Puts: Dart Group, Irish Life, Tullow Oil.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Dec 93	3255.0	3257.0	3226.0	3246.5	11705
Previous open interest: 76316	Mar 94	3276.5	3276.5	3247.0	3266.0	1820
Three Month Sterling	Dec 93	94.69	94.70	94.66	94.68	14052
Previous open interest: 426617	Mar 94	94.95	94.95	94.90	94.93	13709
	Jun 94	95.15	95.15	95.09	95.11	10817
Three Mth Eurodollar	Dec 93	96.55	96.55	96.54	96.54	1011
Previous open interest: 14834	Mar 94	96.43	96.43	96.43	96.41	28
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 93	93.91	93.91	93.88	93.89	15653
Previous open interest: 745780	Mar 94	94.64	94.65	94.61	94.62	29324
Long Gilt	Dec 93	118-10	118-11	118-02	118-07	1348
Previous open interest: 139408	Mar 94	117-19	117-20	117-06	117-13	35924
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 94	116.54	116.54	116.39	116.42	1817
	Jun 94					0
German Gov Bd Bobl	Dec 93	102.78	102.89	102.76	102.86	1425
Previous open interest: 18565	Mar 94	103.18	103.26	103.15	103.20	2330
German Gov Bd Bund	Dec 93	100.14	100.24	100.14	100.21	5035
Previous open interest: 153457	Mar 94	100.17	100.25	100.07	100.14	66102
Three month ECU	Dec 93	93.46	93.51	93.46	93.49	2394
Previous open interest: 36803	Mar 94	94.16	94.22	94.15	94.18	1515
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 93	95.75	95.75	95.73	95.75	2150
Previous open interest: 60097	Mar 94	96.37	96.39	96.33	96.37	6515
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 94	115.25	115.58	114.90	115.20	37554
Previous open interest: 84259	Jun 94				115.35	0

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 81.6 (day's range 81.6-81.9).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Dec 7	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8457-2.8641	2.8457-2.8492	⅛-¼ds	¼-½ds
Brussels	53.01-53.40	53.01-53.12	12-16ds	25-31ds
Copenhagen	9.9990-10.0610	9.9990-10.0140	2-3¼ds	5-7¼ds
Dublin	1.0540-1.0575	1.0540-1.0571	8-12ds	23-30ds
Frankfurt	2.5414-2.5556	2.5414-2.5447	¼-⅜ds	1¼-1½ds
Lisbon	258.51-260.69	258.51-259.15	127-152ds	367-419ds
Madrid	207.79-209.36	207.79-208.10	69-80ds	196-216ds
Milan	2496.90-2512.50	2496.90-2501.00	6-8ds	20-22ds
Montreal	1.9712-1.9867	1.9712-1.9741	0.25-0.19pr	0.47-0.36pr
New York	1.4910-1.5007	1.4910-1.4920	0.25-0.24pr	0.67-0.64pr
Oslo	11.0280-11.0840	11.0280-11.0440	⅛-¼ds	⅛-¼pr
Paris	8.7460-8.7950	8.7460-8.7610	1-1¼ds	2¾-3¼ds
Stockholm	12.4020-12.4570	12.4170-12.4410	1⅞-3ds	4¼-6¼ds
Tokyo	160.32-162.00	160.32-160.59	½-⅜pr	1⅝-1½pr
Vienna	17.87-18.00	17.87-17.91	¾-1¼ds	1⅝-3⅛ds
Zurich	2.1843-2.2005	2.1843-2.1873	⅛pr-par	⅝-½pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4900-1.4926
Australia dollar	2.23-2.24
Bahrain dinar	0.5595-0.5715
Brazil cruzeiro *	371.63-373.09
Cyprus pound	0.7625-0.7725
Finland marka	8.532-8.648
Greece drachma	363.5-370.5
Hong Kong dollar	11.53-11.54
India rupee	46.60-47.56
Kuwait dinar KD	0.442-0.452
Malaysia ringgit	3.81-3.82
Mexico peso	4.6-4.7
New Zealand dollar	2.70-2.72
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.562-5.688
Singapore dollar	2.38-2.39
S Africa rand (fin)	6.6043-6.6836
S Africa rand (com)	5.0227-5.0292
U A E dirham	5.4455-5.5695

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4956-1.4970
Austria	11.98-11.99
Belgium (Com)	35.53-35.57
Canada	1.3208-1.3215
Denmark	6.705-6.710
France	5.861-5.866
Germany	1.7035-1.7045
Hong Kong	7.723-7.724
Ireland	1.4126-1.4156
Italy	1675.8-1677.3
Japan	107.78-107.88
Malaysia	2.5515-2.5525
Netherlands	1.9108-1.9118
Norway	7.396-7.401
Portugal	173.38-173.68
Singapore	1.597-1.598
Spain	139.33-139.43
Sweden	8.301-8.311
Switzerland	1.46-1.47

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5½ Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 8 Low 5½ Week fixed: 5½
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅛ ; 3 mth 5 . Sell: 2 mth 5⅛ ; 3 mth: 4¹⁵⁄₁₆.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5⅛	5⅜-5⅛	5-4¹⁵⁄₁₆	
Sterling Money Rates:	5½-5⅜	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5-5
Interbank:	5½-5⅜	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5-5
Overnight: open 5¼, close 8½					
Local Authority Deps:	5¼	n/a	5¼	5	5
Sterling CDs:	5⅜-5⅛	5⅜-5¼	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5	5-4¹⁵⁄₁₆
Dollar CDs:	3.35-3.32	n/a	3.34-3.31	3.40-3.37	3.68-3.65
Building Society CDs:	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5-5

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Nov 30, 1993 Agreed rates Dec 26, 1993 to Jan 25, 1994 Scheme III: 6.90 %. Reference rate Oct 30, 1993 to Nov 30, 1993 Scheme IV & V: 5.618 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3-2¾	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅜-3¼	3⅛-2⅞
Deutschemark:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6	5⅞-5⅜	6⅛-5⅞
French Franc:	6⅞-6⅛	6¹¹⁄₁₆-6⁹⁄₁₆	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	7⅛-6⅞
Swiss Franc:	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4⅛	4-3⅞	4⅛-3⅞
Yen:	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2-1⅞	1⅞-1⅞	2⅛-1⅞

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $375.20-375.60 Close: $376.10-376.60 High: $377.00-377.50
Low: $373.70-374.20 Krugerrand: $375.00-378.00 (£250.75-252.75)
Sovereigns: Old $86.00-89.00 (£57.50-59.50) New $86.00-89.00 (£57.50-59.50)
Platinum: $376.90 (£251.50) **Silver:** $4.86 (£3.255) **Palladium:** $124.90 (£83.35)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Lyon	600	27½	43½	52½	15	22½	35
(*620)	650	6	19½	28½	46	51	65
Argyll	240	21	28½	32½	7	11	17½
(*257½)	260	10½	15	22½	18	20½	24
ASDA	45	6½	7½	9½	2	4	5
(*49)	50	3½	5½	7	4½	6½	7½
Boots	500	49	60½	68½	5	10½	19½
(*539½)	550	15	29½	38	24	31	41
Br Airways	420	28½	40	48	13	21	29
(*433½)	460	10½	21	29½	39½	42	51
BP	330	14	22½	27½	10½	17½	22½
(*330½)	360	3½	9½	14½	32½	36½	41
Br Steel	120	13	17½	22	4	7½	10
(*129)	130	7½	12	16½	7½	11	15
C & W	475	34	51	61	10½	20½	27
(*498½)	500	21½	37½	47½	21½	32	38½
CU	600	31	42	52½	12½	24	29½
(*613½)	650	8	17½	29½	41½	54½	58½
ICI	681	76½	—	—	4	—	—
(*746½)	750	26½	37	49	25½	48	55½
Kingfishr	700	50	67	76	9	20½	31½
(*734½)	750	20½	37½	49	32½	45	55
Land Sec	750	33	49½	59	12	18½	31½
(*766)	800	9	24½	32½	41	46	59
M & S	420	41	50½	55½	4	8	13½
(*454½)	460	14	25½	31	18	23	30
Nat West	600	29½	38½	45½	18	34	42
(*601½)	650	6½	15	25	53	68	73½
Sainsbury	390	27	41	47½	9	14½	22½
(*408½)	420	11	24	31½	22½	29	37½
Shell	700	25	34	46	15	31	37½
(*704½)	750	6	14	24½	49	64½	68½
SmKl Bch	390	23	34½	44½	16	26½	33
(*392½)	420	10	22½	33	34½	44½	50½
Storehse	220	14	22	26½	6	10½	14
(*229½)	240	4	12½	16½	17½	21½	25
Trafalgar	90	9½	12½	14½	4½	6	9
(*95½)	100	3½	8	9½	10½	12	15
Unilever	1150	44½	64½	84	22	44½	56
(*1167½)	1200	20½	38½	59	50½	72	82
Zeneca	750	56	68	81	10½	28½	41½
(*789)	800	25	36½	55	31½	55	66
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Grnd Met	420	24½	32	42	16	22	27½
(*433½)	460	7	14½	23½	41½	47	50½
Ladbroke	140	19	23	25½	11½	17½	19
(*145½)	160	10½	13½	17	23	30	32
Utd Bisc	330	29½	33½	37½	9	17½	22
(*344)	360	14	17	23½	25	35½	41

December 7, 1993 Tot: 29290 Call: 15177 Put: 14103 FT-SE Call: 3943 Put: 6775
*Underlying security price.

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	950	50	72½	99½	15	27	39
(*976)	1000	23	45½	62	39½	51	62½
Thames W	550	23	36	45	13	24	36½
(*554½)	600	6	15	23	48½	52	69
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
BAT Ind	500	36	43½	49	14½	26½	33
(*516½)	550	12	19	25	42½	57	63
BTR	330	27	31	36½	8½	16	19
(*343½)	360	11½	16	22½	24½	32½	34½
Br Aero	390	40½	51	63½	20½	30½	38
(*407)	420	25	37½	48½	35½	46	54½
Br Telcm	460	19	27	34½	15	19	26½
(*467½)	500	5	10	17	44	45½	51
Cadbury	453	30½	36	—	9½	20½	—
(*467)	493	10	15½	—	31½	44	—
Guinness	460	29½	38½	44½	16	26½	32
(*469)	500	11	20½	26	38	51	56
GEC	300	29	35½	39½	4½	7	12½
(*324½)	330	11	17	22½	17	20½	27
Hanson	260	10½	13½	17½	11	15½	19½
(*260½)	280	4	7	10½	25	29	32½
LASMO	110	16½	20	23	7½	12	13½
(*116½)	120	10½	14½	19	13	16½	19
Lucas	160	25½	29½	32½	4	7	9½
(*179½)	180	12½	16	21½	12	16	18½
Pilkingtn	140	20½	23	27½	6½	9	12
(*157)	160	8	12	16½	15½	17½	21½
Prudential	330	35½	39	43	5	11	17½
(*356½)	360	15	20½	26	15½	25	29
Redland	550	36½	46	52½	15½	36	41
(*562½)	600	14	23½	31	47½	60½	70½
Royal Ins	288	25½	—	—	8½	—	—
(*301)	317	11	—	—	25	—	—
Tesco	180	22½	27	28½	6	10½	12
(*195)	200	10½	15	17½	13½	21	22½
Vodafone	550	42	59	71	27	40	51½
(*556½)	600	21	36½	50	60	70	79½
Williams	330	28½	34	37½	7½	15	18½
(*347)	360	12	16	23	22½	31½	35

FT-SE INDEX (*3238)

	3100	3150	3200	3250	3300	3350
Calls						
Dec	150	103	58	27	8	2
Jan	174	132	94	65	41	25
Feb	191	153	118	86	64	44
Mar	206	170	137	107	83	61
Jun	244	—	181	—	129	—
Puts						
Dec	2½	4½	12	32	67	117
Jan	20	28	41	62	91	129
Feb	30	43	58	79	107	140
Mar	47	58	75	95	122	153
Jun	76	—	111	—	159	—

Series		Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Abby Nat	420	42½	51	55½	1	7½	12½
(*459)	460	9½	24½	31	9½	24½	29½
Amstrad	40	3½	6½	8	1½	4	5½
(*42)	45	1½	4	6	4½	7	8
Barclays	600	32½	50	58½	4	19	27½
(*626)	650	5½	23½	33½	29	46	53½
Blue Circ	330	11	24½	30	7½	19	27½
(*331½)	360	2	11½	17½	31	37½	46½
Br Gas	330	27	35½	40	1½	6½	12
(*357½)	360	—	16½	21	10½	18½	26½
Dixons	280	17½	28½	36½	3½	14½	20
(*292)	300	6	18½	26	13	24½	30
Forte	240	11½	23	27	4½	13	18½
(*246)	260	3	13½	17½	17½	24½	30½
Hillsdown	140	12	16½	21½	2	7	12
(*149)	160	1½	8	11	13½	17½	24½
Lonrho	130	7	14	18	3½	11	13½
(*133)	140	2½	9½	13½	9½	16½	19
Sears	120	10	14½	16	1½	4	6
(*129½)	130	3	6½	10½	4½	8½	11½
Thm Emi	950	49	69½	90	3½	26	35
(*989½)	1000	14	42	62	22½	50½	59½
Tomkins	220	11	18½	24	3	9½	13
(*227½)	240	2	10½	14	15	21	24½
TSB	220	17½	24	27½	1½	7½	10½
(*235)	240	4	11	16½	8½	17	20
Wellcome	650	27	58	71	12	34½	49
(*664½)	700	7½	36	50	43	62½	76½
Series		**Dec**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Dec**	**Apr**	**Jul**
Glaxo	650	42	72½	90	2	36½	48
(*682½)	700	11½	46	65½	29	61½	73
HSBC	750	45½	75	85½	4½	35	45½
(*795½)	800	12½	47	59½	24	61½	71
Reuter	1700	58	126	160	15½	72	94
(*1740½)	1750	28½	98	133	37	96	118½
Series		**Dec**	**Feb**	**May**	**Dec**	**Feb**	**May**
R-Royce	156	15	20½	—	1½	6	—
(*168)	176	3	9½	—	10½	16	—
Series		**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Fisons	140	6½	16½	19½	5	12	19½
(*141½)	160	1½	8½	12	20½	24½	33
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Eastn Elc	600	55½	66	75	7½	13½	23
(*645½)	650	23	39½	45½	28	34½	46½
Series		**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Natl Pwr	420	11½	26	35	6	16½	23½
(*423½)	460	1½	9	16½	39	41½	48
Scot Pwr	420	18½	28½	37½	3	13½	18
(*433½)	460	1½	10	18½	29	37½	40½

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: The death of the Ivorian President was announced, but after weeks of speculation about his condition, the cocoa market actually ended down on the day. Traders are now worried that a power struggle will develop as politicians try to fill the leadership void. The death comes in the middle of the country's cocoa harvest. Should any civil disruptions affect the harvest, then world cocoa prices could rise.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	990-975	Mar	1021-1020
Mar	1042-1041	May	1025-1024
May	1040-1039	Jul	1030-1029
Jul	1038-1037	Sep	1041-1040
Sep	1038-1036		
Dec	1021-1020		Volume 7163

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	1246-1245	Sep	1211-1206
Mar	1234-1233	Nov	1213-1205
May	1219-1217	Jan	1212-1200
Jul	1213-1210		Volume 2337

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR (6.00pm)

		Oct	11.08-11.28
Spot: 270.20		Jan	unq
Mar	10.94-10.98	Mar	unq
May	11.10-11.22	May	unq
Jul	11.30-11.42		Volume 65

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	280.8-78.5
Spot: 287.0		Dec	280.8-76.5
Mar	285.5-85.0	Mar	283.8-78.0
May	286.9-86.0	May	286.8-80.0
Aug	292.3-90.5		Volume 389

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 7

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	72.34	88.92	121.53
(+/-)	+1.44	-1.92	+1.93
Eng/Wales:	72.60	89.18	120.86
(+/-)	+2.18	-1.79	+3.22
(%)	+9.1	-19.3	-18.3
Scotland:	69.60	81.55	124.04
(+/-)	-3.58	-2.83	-1.03
(%)	-51.5	-45.3	-39.1

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug	unq	...	Mar	unq	...
Sep	unq	...			volume 0

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Jan	100.70
Mar	102.05
May	103.75
Jun	104.75
Sep	90.75
	Volume: 364

BARLEY (close £/t)

Jan	105.15
Mar	106.50
May	107.70
Sep	92.65
Nov	95.00
	Volume: 250

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	—
Dec	—
Feb	—
Apr	—
	Volume: 0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Mar	unq	118.0
Apr	90.0	88.1
May	107.0	108.0
		Volume: 23

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)

Jan 61.00-61.50

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): News that Opec ministers would discuss current prices did little to help a nervous market.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	13.80	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Dec)	13.85	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Jan)	13.80	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	14.85	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	15.15	+0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	145 (-4)	147 (-4)
Gasoil EEC	144 (-2)	145 (-2)
Non EEC 1H Jan	150 (-1)	152 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Feb	150 (n/c)	152 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	55 (n/c)	57 (n/c)
Naphtha	135 (-1)	137 (-1)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Dec	144.00 BID	Mar	144.75-45.25
Jan	144.00-44.25	Apr	144.75 BID
Feb	144.50 SLR	May	unq
			Vol: 29150

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jan	13.79-13.80	Apr	14.46-14.50
Feb	14.03 BID	May	14.64-14.74
Mar	14.24-14.27		Vol: 41720

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Dec	142.00-42.50	Mar	158.75 SLR
Jan	144.00-45.00	Apr	168.75 SLR
Feb	154.75 SLR		Vol: 114

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

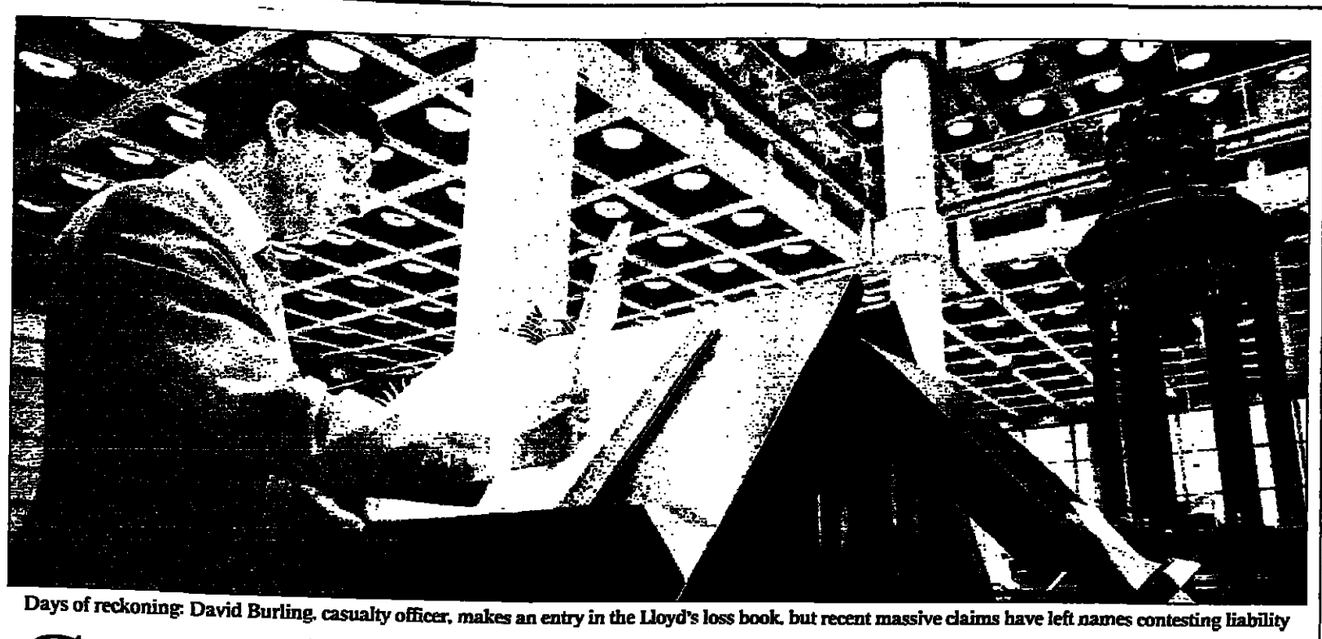
	High	Low	Close
Dec 93	1250	1245	1250
Jan 94	1250	1240	1250
Feb 94	1270	1250	1270
Apr 94	1285	1275	1285

Vol: 112 lots. Open Int'st: 2401 Index 1248

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1686.5-1687.0	1708.0-1708.5	1250375
Lead ($/tonne)	454.50-455.50	468.50-469.00	123700
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	985.00-986.00	1004.0-1004.5	491100
Tin ($/tonne)	4788.0-4793.0	4840.0-4845.0	12425
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1079.0-1080.0	1099.5-1100.5	975450
Nickel ($/tonne)	5048.0-5052.0	5110.0-5115.0	59112

هكذا من الأصل



Days of reckoning: David Burling, casualty officer, makes an entry in the Lloyd's loss book, but recent massive claims have left names contesting liability

Can Lloyd's persuade names to take the money and stay?

Sarah Bagnall examines the details of yesterday's £900 million offer from the insurance market to compensate names who have suffered huge losses

Lloyd's of London faces an uphill struggle to persuade more than 21,000 loss-making names to accept the compensation offer it unveiled yesterday. The £900 million on the table falls a long way short of the £3.15 billion losses against which names are making legal claims.

For some names the offer will do nothing but make them less bust — they will still be faced with heavy losses and will have little motive for voting yes. Many action groups have already spoken out, urging their names to reject the offer on the grounds that it is too small and fails to provide names with a "cap" against any future deterioration of their losses.

Names have until the end of January to weigh up the pros and cons of the offer. One price names have to pay for accepting the offer is their right to take any legal action against Lloyd's, members' agents and managing agents, the people who they accuse of landing them in their current financial predicament. Furthermore, names have to give over their right to sue other advisers, such as auditors, to Recovery, a new Lloyd's special purpose vehicle.

The compensation package of £900 million is made up of an estimated £450 million contribution from Lloyd's centrally, £400 million from errors and omissions (E&O) insurers and £50 million from the relevant Lloyd's members' and managing agents.

Although the offer fails to match names' total claims, they have been given warning in a letter from David Rowland, the Lloyd's chairman, that if they reject the offer and take the litigation route then the Lloyd's contribution would not be on offer. This downside may, however, be offset by the courts awarding more from the E&O insurers — an uncertainty made less clear by the fear that the first action groups to reach court may deplete the E&O pot leaving nothing for later litigants.

The division of the £900 million between names is expected to trigger widespread disappointment and in many cases anger. Names will look uncomprehendingly at those who appear to have fared better in the carve up and will begin to question the whole methodology of the process.

As expected the offer has been heavily biased in favour of the market's hardest hit and those with legal action due to reach the court first. The offers, some of which are detailed in the table below, are subject to various adjustments. For those action groups whose claims are time-barred or relate to run-off contracts, such as Outhwaite 2 and Merrett 421, there is a downward adjustment. Conversely, the amount offered to names on syndicates where a wrongful closure claim has been made will be increased depending on how long the name has been on a syndicate.

While the offer covers both litigating and non-litigating names, those who are members of action groups that had issued writs before October will receive an additional 20 per cent. This will benefit litigating names on Gooda Walker syndicates 164, 290, 298 and 299, Feltrim syndicates 540, 542 and 847, Merrett syndicate 417/418 and Verall (Pulbrook) syndicate 334.

Further adjustments give litigating names a 3:2 uplift irrespective of whether writs have been issued; and names on more than one LMX or spiral syndicate will get an extra 10 per cent for each syndicate participation after the first. However, the benefits of this redistribution of the total pot are limited so that no individual names receives more than two-thirds of his total loss.

Peter Middleton, Lloyd's chief executive, said: "In broad terms, more than 100 names will receive between £500,000 and £750,000 and fewer than 40 names will get between £750,000 and £1 million. The bulk of the names will clearly receive less than £100,000, but there are a couple of thousand names or more who are getting between £100,000 and £250,000. About 2,000 are getting more than £200,000."

In reaching the breakdown of the offer between names Lloyd's set up a financial panel headed by Sir Jeremy Morse, former Lloyds Bank chairman, which calculated how much money was available from the errors and omissions underwriters to meet names' claims. A legal panel, headed by Sir Michael Kerr, a former Lord Justice of Appeal, assessed the financial strength of the 30-odd action groups' claims, ranking them as having a good, upper medium, lower medium, weak or hopeless chance of success in the courts.

The legal panel dealt with claims from 30 syndicates involving more than 100 syndicate-years. These claims were divided into three categories — LMX, long-tail and stop-loss syndicates, and miscellaneous. In the case of the 11 LMX syndicates' claims, the panel concluded that underwriters failed to "properly" perform their fundamental duty of balancing risks, a problem that was exacerbated "by the ignorance of many [maybe most] in the market about the existance or operation of the LMX spiral".

The panel accordingly weighted the bulk of the LMX syndicates as having "strong" cases. As a result, names on Gooda Walker syndicates are being offered £234 million of the total £900 million, before adjustments that could lift the total to £300 million. This compares to the syndicates losses of £850 million.

Names on the Feltrim syndicates are being offered £208.5 million before adjustments. Both Feltrim and Gooda Walker names will benefit from the £158.3 million available to be distributed among names on more than one LMX or spiral syndicate. Mr Middleton said 2,500 names were on two spiral syndicates, 250 were on six spiral syndicates and one name was on all 11. In the case of the long-tail syndicates, the rankings fell more into the "lower medium" chance of success through litigation. Merrett syndicate 421, however, gained a "strong" ranking in relation to 1983, 1984 and 1985, and Merrett 421 in its sole claim for 1983.

Even if names accept the offer they will not get a cheque in the post for the full amount. In fact, it appears unlikely that much of the money will reach names' pockets. Lloyd's is issuing names with a "special credit", which will be held by Lloyd's and from which various deductions will be made before any leftovers are distributed.

First, any money owed to meet Lloyd's central fund debts and earmarkings will be paid, followed by any funds needed to enable a name to carry on underwriting next year and help meet his solvency test at the end of this. Finally, any stop-loss or estate-protection cover will have to be paid off.

There is no doubt that Lloyd's has worked hard to offer names a fair and affordable settlement, but its chances of being accepted look slim. There is no doubt the offer will split names, with some wanting to put an end to their pain and accept the offer while others will continue to bay for blood and will insist upon dragging as many Lloyd's professionals through the courts as possible. Which way the scales will tip is not yet certain — some of the action groups have been quick to urge their names to reject the offer but the final say rests with the individuals, some of who are not litigating and so only stand to gain if the offer is accepted. For the offer to go unconditional, Lloyd's says more than 70 per cent of names must accept the offer.

ALLOCATION OF SETTLEMENT FUND

SYNDICATE	NO.	YEAR	OFFER £'000s
Gooda Walker	164	1989	11,248*
Gooda Walker	290	1989	81,415*
Gooda Walker	290	1990	12,056*
Gooda Walker	298	1988	20,149*
Gooda Walker	298	1989	78,424*
Gooda Walker	299	1988	2,695*
Gooda Walker	299	1989	3,190*
Feltrim	540/542	1987	31,287*
Feltrim	540/542	1988	43,513*
Feltrim	540/542	1989	68,242*
Feltrim	540/542	1990	10,699*
Feltrim	847	1987	4,527*
Feltrim	847	1989	38,988*
Feltrim	847	1990	11,292*
Gooda Walker	387	1983	1,722
Gooda Walker	387	1984	1,433
Gooda Walker	387	1985	2,130
Gooda Walker	387	1987	482
Gooda Walker	387	1988	2,907
Gooda Walker	387	1989	16,234

* - denotes that additional adjustments to be made

TEMPUS

The power of money

THERE is something unnerving about the conspicuous display of wealth by the RECs. Midlands Electricity may describe the 20 per cent rise in its interim dividend as a rebalancing exercise with its final payout — like Eastern last week — but shareholders should still receive a full-year uplift of nearly 15 per cent, more than ten times the rate of inflation.

What is even more unsettling is the rate the RECs are accumulating cash despite such bumper payouts to shareholders and handouts to customers. A combination of lower fuel costs, rising cost efficiencies and the disappearance of retailing losses have converted them into the purest money machines on the stock market.

SWALEC's net cash has risen to £67.6 million, Midlands' to £88 million and even though seasonal factors will cut these by year end, they still have more money than they knows what to do with. Such riches make it almost certain that Offer will impose tougher formulae in its review of the RECs' distribution businesses next year. But unless Stephen Littlechild departs radically from the tone he set in the supply review, the formulae will not prevent the RECs continuing to milk their local monopolies for all they are worth.

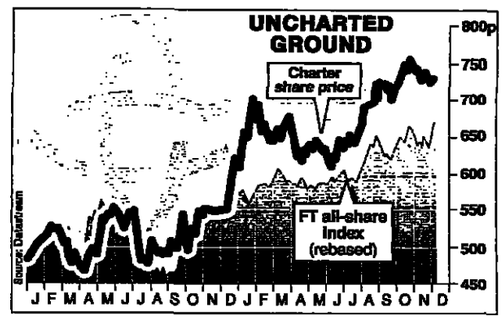
But none of the RECs knows what to do with the wealth. Heavy losses from retailing have made them gun-shy about further diversification. SWALEC is investing £30 million in a cable television venture in the next four years but this will only consume a fraction of the free cash flow. Sooner or later, the RECs will be tempted into the acquisition market on a grander scale. Only then may they reveal their Achilles heels.

Charter

HAVING extricated itself from Minorco's clutches, Charter is learning that the outside world can be cold. Now the group's profits are no longer inflated by Johnson Matthey, its remaining businesses look pedestrian. Of the three divisions, only rail track equipment registered a profit increase. Even though the other businesses were affected with one-off items, such as the American coal strike, their potential is unexciting.

Charter desperately needs an acquisition to rekindle interest in its shares. It certainly has the resources: apart from £147 million in cash, its share buy-in deal with Minorco has left the equity base looking small, so a rights issue or a large vendor placing would be welcomed by institutions. Using cash, debt and equity the group could conceivably pay up to £500 million.

Charter's difficulty, like other acquisition seekers, is that share prices have run so high, forcing it to look in the private sector instead. Its reluctance to rush into a deal is reassuring, given the disappointing performance of Hargreaves Quarries, one of its more recent purchases. But considering the goup's success in unwinding its position with Minroco, it must be able to deliver on this latest challenge. The market certainly thinks so. The shares, at 719p, are valued at 19 times this year's forecast earnings, and it will take an attractive acquisition indeed to move them on further.



Siebe

SINCE almost half Siebe's sales are dollar-denominated, the market was not surprised that the company's interim profits were swollen with currency gains. Indeed, institutions had been buying the stock to get exposure to a stronger dollar. The 3 per cent markdown in the shares that followed the figures seems like sour grapes but they showed little evidence of underlying growth and plenty of warnings about difficult markets on the Continent and in Japan.

The market has bid up stocks like Siebe on the back of reduced gearing and recovery hopes but the unpleasant reality of depressed capital goods and components markets in Europe and Japan is delaying the anticipated payoff.

With £44 million of net cash flow after capital expenditure, tax and dividends, shareholders should again question the necessity for last month's rights issue. Siebe's gearing would have barely exceeded 50 per cent without the acquisitions in the Spring and full payment for last month's Eckardt deal is not due for another ten months. Companies like war chests but cash earns so little these days that the money looks surplus to requirements. Siebe could turn in £20 million in real profit growth for the full year, but the first-half performance gives little comfort.

Chubb

THE market is beginning to doubt the growth story at Chubb, and the security group did not help its share price by coming in slightly below City expectations. That should not be enough to send a share price sliding almost 5 per cent but investors are now beginning to doubt that Chubb can live up to the rating it has enjoyed since its demerger from Racal.

Yesterday the company gave some unintentional credence to the lower growth scenario by focussing on efficiency gains rather than potential revenue growth. Chubb is now debt-free, having generated £13 million in the first half but the rating of 22 times full-year earnings may be demanding more than the company can deliver in depressed markets.

Ladbroke

THE cancellation of a scrip dividend will not ruin Ladbroke since it will cost only £3.5 million, but it can do nothing to restore the City's faith in the group's financial position. The company had no choice but to cancel the scrip since the shares have fallen so far. Even so, one feels that most of its shareholders would have preferred the group to retain the cash, even at the expense of a little dilution. The company must be relieved that it was not backed into such a corner with its much larger enhanced scrip dividend earlier this year.

Ladbroke badly needs to pull something out of the hat. As its shares continue to slide, the chances of holding a rights issue are dwindling. The best thing it could do is sell a large part of its property portfolio. But news about disposals is ominously scarce. Unless the City is shown otherwise, its doubts about the true value of the group's assets will remain.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Sweden still keen on EC membership

From O. A. G. Kems

Sir, The flopped Volvo-Renault merger was obviously far too disadvantageous to the Swedish company, its workers and shareholders. Isn't it therefore ironic that Mr Pehr Gyllenhammar should apparently be the only one not seeing it as it was. And if there was more in the deal for the Swedes as Mr Gyllenhammar would want all to believe, why for heaven's sake did he not come out openly to explain? Was he merely attempting to sell out a Swedish success to French greed? Did he not seem to have taken his shareholders for granted?

The cessation of the merger is a blow to the ex-Volvo chairman's pride, but a great victory for the Swedish people. As a small country, Sweden needs EC membership in order to effectively compete in the common market. However, the defeat of the proposed merger does not in the least mean that Sweden has turned its back on Europe and the rest of the world. Certainly, the majority of Swedes are keenly looking forward to their country's admission into the EC shortly.

Though the Japanese are likely to attempt to cut a deal with Volvo in the near future, they do not constitute the only option. It is not inconceivable that other EC auto makers should be interested. After all, the UK is Volvo's largest market in Europe.

The Swedes therefore need and are willing to co-operate with international businesses. But such deals must be mutually beneficial and worth their while.

For all I know, Volvo is not an insignificant fly waiting just to be swallowed. Though it is not advisable to break three years of co-operation, Volvo will, nevertheless, survive the fierce European car market battle of the 1990s, with or without Renault.

Yours faithfully,
O. A. G. KEMS
(Managing Director)
Koag-Invest International,
E. Torulfsgatan 17 C,
S-416 73 Gothenburg,
Sweden.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of *The Times* can be sent by fax to 071-782 5112.

In whose interest?

From Dr V. Goldberg

Anatole Kaletsky is fervent in his belief that there should be a further reduction in interest rates of perhaps 2 per cent. This will undoubtedly help mortgage payers, but at the same time it will remove a tranche of spending power from those pensioners who have some investment income to supplement their pensions, perhaps 3 or 4 million people.

Yours faithfully,
Valerie Goldberg
6 Hollycroft Avenue,
Wembley,
Middlesex.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Tipple in the reptile house

LEADERS of the pharmaceutical industry have often been accused of peddling snakeoil. But they might be in for a surprise at this evening's wine tasting hosted in Regent's Park by Magellan Medical Communications. Not only has Tom Delaney, Magellan's managing director, chosen the exotic venue of the London Zoo's reptile house, he has also selected a novel way to reward those who correctly identify the mystery beverage on sample. Those with the best palate, or nose, will be given the "privilege" of sponsoring an animal for 1994. Speculation is mounting as to who will win the prize snake. Other creatures on offer are a rat and a monkey. Among the guests will be Mike Wallace, managing director of Schering UK, Alan Walker, European president of Parke Davis, Tony Eaton of Roussel, and Dr Paul Hooper from Roche. Although businessfolk are quite used to dealing with commercial rats, snakes and sharks, coping with the real thing should be a challenge. Parliamentarians, used to animal braying from Commons question time, could also be among the sponsors. Labour MPs Stuart Randall and Paul Murphy, and Dr John Blackburn and Roger Knapman for the Tories, have been invited too.

Inching to fame

THE sleuths at Presswatch who add up the good and bad column inches in the national papers to assess a company's standing, have discovered that the average builder earned a rating of 28 in the third quarter this year, compared with the 15 average for all 847 companies surveyed. Recession in construction would appear to have made even builders popular, as this is the sector's best rating since the survey was started. Among the building firms there are some striking exceptions. Costain remains nailed to the bottom of the table, with a negative rating of 124. Housebuilders clearly top the ratings, with Barratt taking over star billing from Berkeley Group as the firm with the best press. As to the company least favourable reflected, the survey was distinctly unsurprising. It was Euro Disney.

Bank invasion

BANKING folk with an interest in modern history were doubtless amused by yesterday's remarks from Hilmar Koppar, management board chairman of the mighty Deutsche Bank, which suggested that he had no further plans for expansion in Europe. Given Deutsche's war chest, talk of having "no intention of entering commercial banking in Europe, let alone retail banking" might sound rather hollow. After his bank's foray into Northern Italy, it would seem odd if Herr Kopper's territorial ambitions had been entirely fulfilled. Could it be that Deutsche has another continent in mind.

Dogwatch

AFTER a lengthy break, Union Discount has restored it "UDOG" page to the Reuters screen to offer guidance on gilts from Philip Shaw, its newly-acquired economics guru. The canine ring to the page name is accidental. The letters stand simply for Union Discount On Gilts. But the name of the economist who writes the "Threadwatch" section is highly appropriate — David Baskerville.

Name dropper

IN ITS enthusiasm to bring the glad tidings about the winner of the Hambro Businessman of the Year award, Dewe Rogerson compressed the key information in a fashion that could set a trend. Why name the winner and his company separately? "Sir Christopher Courtauld" was given as the winner on the header page of the fax. Courtauld certainly has a better ring to it than Sir Christopher's real name, Hogg. But might I suggest that "Sir Christopher Reuter-Courtauld" might be more appropriate for the chairman of the two distiguished firms.

Healthy Short

ALEC McRitchie, director of public relations at Short Brothers, whose company was described as "struggling" in these columns on Wednesday, has kindly pointed out that since privatisation in 1989, and takeover by Bombardier, the Canadian group, Shorts has become one of Britain's most profitable aerospace groups. Despite the recession, the firm showed a £28.2 million pre-tax profit in its last financial year. With no interims to reveal progress this year, one must rely on the company's own forecast concerning current health. This year's profits, Mr McRitchie assures me, will be "broadly in line" with last year.

AMERICAN mail order firms are offering Christmas gifts for pampered pooches. A velvet pyjama suit will set the buyer back £140, while handcrafted diamante ear-rings (bitches only) are a snip at £180.

COLIN NARBROUGH



"I'm afraid our compensation fund offer has been rejected."

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	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Grofund Amer	166.30	174.00†	+ 0.60	...
Grofund Equity	261.00	265.00	+ 0.40	1.29
Grofund Euro	191.90	202.00	+ 1.00	...
Grofund Expt Bal	112.40	116.50	+ 1.00	1.10
Grofund Gilt	81.85	84.38	+ 0.04	4.48
Grofund Japan	156.50	164.80†	+ 0.60	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
Equity & Law Hse, Corpn St, Coventry
0203 555 231

General Acc	519.20	552.40	- 1.20	2.85
General Inc	467.60	497.50	- 1.30	2.25
UK Growth Acc	353.40	376.00†	- 1.30	2.43
UK Growth Inc	247.00	263.40†	- 0.70	2.43
Higher Inc Acc	661.10	703.40†	+ 1.00	3.41
Higher Inc Inc	395.40	420.70†	+ 0.60	3.41
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	193.70	204.50	+ 0.10	5.57
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	99.04	104.60	+ 0.10	5.57
Nth America	268.40	285.40†	+ 1.00	...
Far East	332.40	353.70†	+ 1.30	0.02
Europe	260.20	276.90†	+ 0.50	0.88
Brit Excell	70.99	75.53†	- 0.21	2.52
Brit Fndmntls Acc	100.40	106.90	+ 0.10	4.20
Brit Fndmntls Inc	76.29	81.17	+ 0.14	4.20
Global Opps	82.67	87.95†	...	0.07
Balanced Acc	83.47	86.89†	+ 0.04	2.30
Balanced Inc	82.99	86.38†	+ 0.04	2.30

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth 0345 717 373

High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	139.00	147.30†	- 0.20	5.43
High Inc Equity	165.20	175.70	- 0.20	4.48
Worldwide Bond	271.30	287.70†	- 0.10	3.65
Capital Growth				
American Growth	303.90	325.00	- 1.50	.97
Asian Pacific	356.50	378.20	+10.30	.25
Assets & Earnings	245.80	262.80†	- 0.20	2.07
Comdty & Energy	109.50	116.80	+ 0.90	.47
1992 Europe	89.76	95.78	+ 0.58	0.00
Euro Capital Inc	121.10	129.50	+ 1.10	.75
General	226.70	241.10	+ 0.50	2.26
Japan	110.80	118.50	+ 0.30	...
Mastertrust	134.00	143.30	+ 0.60	1.30
UK Growth Dist	126.10	134.10	+ 0.40	2.13
UK Emerging Cos	130.50	138.80	+ 0.90	...
Income & Growth	383.80	408.20†	+ 0.10	3.21
Ethical	69.88	74.33	+ 0.10	2.45
International	107.50	114.30	+ 0.50	.44
Dividend & Growth	62.07	66.03	+ 0.11	4.26
Global Gwth & Sec	64.10	68.19	+ 0.06	2.79

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
14 Melville St. Edinburgh EH3 7NS
031 220 0733

UK Small Cos	1575.0	1644.0	...	...

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ
0800 833 580

Aberdeen Portfolio	60.77	61.96	+ 0.19	0.81
Amer Inc & Growth	68.43	71.79	+ 0.02	0.66
Cash	50.04	50.04†	...	4.92
European	97.35	103.30	+ 0.25	...
European Income	94.42	100.35†	+ 0.82	1.49
Emerge	989.70	1039.3	- 2.30	3.67
Extra Income	96.44	101.45	+ 0.12	4.67
Far East Emg Ecn	114.60	123.30	+ 0.79	0.53
Fixed Interest	24.37	26.01†	+ 0.10	7.10
Fund Inv Tst	164.30	175.30	+ 0.10	0.97
Japan	183.30	195.40	+ 0.10	...
Latin American	66.26	70.53	+ 1.34	0.71
Pacific	72.93	78.10	+ 0.54	0.35
Property Share	72.04	76.91	+ 0.58	1.71
UK Emerging Cos	62.31	66.50	+ 0.30	.87
UK Growth	44.34	47.80	+ 0.10	2.46
World Growth	73.43	78.38†	+ 0.30	0.70
Ethical	63.50	67.79†	+ 0.13	2.62
Aberdeen Gilt Inc	55.17	55.17†	+ 0.06	7.40

ACUMA FUND MANAGERS LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex 0277 690 336

UK Equity Income	92.75	98.67	- 0.03	3.40
UK Equity Growth	81.80	86.60	- 0.15	2.73
European	63.74	67.81	+ 0.15	1.45
Nth American	66.38	70.67	- 0.06	1.03
Far Eastern	68.46	69.04†	+ 0.30	0.29
Money	64.93	64.93	+ 0.01	4.37
Fixed Interest	73.77	78.48	...	5.94
Index Linked Gilt	69.03	73.44	+ 0.05	1.38

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF
031 549 3232

British Growth	67.03	71.31	+ 0.17	2.61
British Income	77.58	82.54	+ 0.08	3.29
Select Portfolio	81.83	87.05	- 0.23	...

Formerly AEtna

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
101 King's Road Brentwood CM14 4DR
0452 385 959

Amity Income	75.81	80.44	- 0.12	2.02
Income Builder Inc	67.16	71.45†	- 0.16	2.83

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL
IFA dlg: 0793 610 366 Client dlg: 0793 514 514

Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	344.60	361.40	+ 0.30	2.88
Capital	411.70	440.10	- 0.20	1.81
Balanced	686.70	734.00†	- 1.80	2.33
Accumulator	1251.0	1337.0†	...	2.82
Income Trusts				
American Income	50.30	53.77	+ 0.23	3.03
High Income	429.30	458.90	- 0.10	3.44
Equity Income	241.90	258.50	...	3.24
High Yield	263.80	282.00†	+ 0.40	3.31
Govt Securities	35.30	37.26	+ 0.06	4.80
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	135.30	144.60	...	0.17
European Growth	32.20	34.22	+ 0.44	0.44
International	152.00	162.30	+ 0.70	0.18
Japan	183.60	196.10	+ 0.80	0.01
Pacific	392.50	419.50	+ 5.00	0.23
Sect of America	427.70	454.90†	+ 0.90	0.54
World Growth	44.61	47.68	+ 0.36	0.39
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	533.60	570.40†	+ 0.10	2.17
Conv & Gilt	48.25	51.57	+ 0.01	3.90
Smaller Cos	166.40	177.80	...	1.22
Small Smaller Cos	158.10	169.00	- 0.20	1.21
Recovery	137.60	147.00†	- 0.30	1.80
Mct Min & Cdty	145.10	155.10†	+ 2.00	0.86
Assets Earnings	343.10	366.70†	+ 2.20	2.20
Technology	155.10	165.60	+ 0.40	0.05
UK Special Sits	444.10	474.70	- 0.70	1.94

ARKWRIGHT MANAGEMENT
1 King St. Manchester M60 3AH 0800 526 358

Growth	133.90	142.50†	+ 0.10	2.04
Income	75.35	79.99	+ 0.12	4.28
European	56.15	59.70†	+ 0.39	0.91
Recovery	127.60	135.80	- 2.80	1.90

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
Minster Royal, Crawley RH10 2QP 0293 528 911

Entrprd Opt Pens	98.76	102.60	...	1.45
Foundtn Pensl Pens	63.56	65.97	...	4.00

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
29 St John's Sq, London EC1M 4AE
071 251 9767

Capital	72.62	77.25	- 0.39	2.01
International	60.36	64.21	...	0.52

BAFLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
1 Rutland Court, Edinburgh EH3 8EY
031 222 4242

America	300.20	323.10†	- 1.80	...
Bond	127.70	134.30	+ 0.30	5.83
Brit Smlr Cos	94.35	100.40	+ 0.07	1.01
Comr & Gen	61.20	65.31†	- 0.18	5.35
Energy	428.20	465.20†	- 0.80	0.26
Europe	211.50	225.10†	+ 1.00	0.63
Euro Smlr Cos	93.26	98.98	+ 0.11	0.98
Income	309.10	361.90†	- 0.50	4.24
Japan	300.90	319.90†	+ 0.10	...
Pacific	115.60	123.00†	- 1.70	0.66
UK Smlr Cos	47.68	50.72	- 0.08	1.06
Japan Fd	687.30	706.90	- 0.17	...
Mngd Fd	173.20	184.30	+ 0.10	2.63

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
36 Queen St. London EC4R 1BN 071 489 8687

Brit Assets	367.50	392.60	+ 0.10	1.19
Capital Gwth	115.50	121.60	+ 0.50	2.23
Wwide Opps	189.20	199.20	+ 4.90	0.48

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
11 Broadway, Stratford E15 4BB 081 534 5544

Balanced Trusts				
Bist Inv Fd Inc	345.50	359.90†	- 0.70	2.75
European Bd Inc	100.20	103.70	+ 0.40	7.21
Exempt	76.56	81.67†	- 0.07	3.97
Financial	74.30	79.47†	- 0.23	2.41
500.00	457.50	489.20	- 0.70	2.54
General	225.20	241.00	+ 0.30	2.56
Property	241.80	259.30†	+ 0.14	...
Trustee	166.50	199.50	+ 0.10	2.33
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	103.70	108.70	...	4.93
Extra Income	118.80	127.10	+ 0.20	4.13
Gilt & Fxd Int	62.88	64.99†	+ 0.17	7.76
Income	541.70	579.30	+ 0.80	3.99
Income Builder	66.83	71.08	+ 0.05	4.67
Intl Income	67.99	72.50	+ 0.20	2.87
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	118.10	126.10	+ 0.10	4.56
Leisure	113.60	121.90	- 0.40	1.59
Recovery	404.60	433.70	- 1.10	2.64
Smlr Cos Inc	39.23	42.61	+ 0.08	2.22
Special Sits	268.70	287.30	- 1.70	2.00
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	131.50	139.50†	...	0.23
Asst Acc	231.70	246.40	- 0.20	1.46
Asst Inc	145.00	154.20†	- 0.10	1.48
Euro Gwth Inc	133.00	141.00	+ 0.80	0.45
Japan & Gen Inc	160.40	173.60	- 0.30	...
Japan Smlr Cos	71.56	76.15	- 0.49	...
Unit Tech Inc	72.45	76.96	+ 0.23	0.50
Worldwide	166.20	176.60	+ 0.50	0.60

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 158, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4TQ
071 628 6000

American Growth	100.60	106.70	...	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	131.50	141.30	- 0.20	...
Cash Trust	80.22	80.22†	+ 0.01	4.90
Convertibles	58.43	62.49	- 0.06	5.60
Eastern	272.70	293.90	- 3.20	1.60
Equity Income	92.58	99.49†	+ 0.11	5.00
European Growth	255.10	267.30	+ 0.50	1.50
Europe	149.50	200.60†	- 0.40	1.50
Extra Income	73.99	78.15	- 0.17	8.70
Global Bond	70.57	74.46	+ 0.36	5.30
Global Growth	124.40	132.90†	+ 0.91	...
Japan Growth	168.30	201.90	+ 0.90	...
Japan Smaller	191.10	172.20	- 0.90	...
Korea Trust	62.20	66.58	+ 0.16	...
Portfolio	132.90	142.60	...	3.20
UK Growth	90.99	96.70	+ 0.48	2.80
UK Smaller Cos	99.65	106.00†	- 0.03	1.00
Select Managers	73.57	78.70	+ 0.12	2.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
20-24 Old Street, London EC1V 9HL
071 250 3380

Intl Gwth Port Inc	75.27	80.07	- 0.27	...
Special Oppor Inc	49.94	53.13	+ 0.09	...

BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD
5 Giltspur St. London EC1A 9DE 071 236 6461

Special Sits	171.30	182.20	- 0.80	0.51
Dividend	82.77	88.68	+ 0.05	4.31
Int Gth & Inc	209.00	244.90	+ 2.20	2.68
UK & Gen	45.97	49.17	+ 0.18	1.31
Fund of Funds	64.31	68.78	+ 0.11	...

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
50 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6HR
041 225 6020

Balanced Growth	105.55	112.89	- 0.32	1.55
Smaller Cos	94.15	100.69	- 0.03	1.03
Higher Yield	44.22	47.34	+ 0.01	3.01
American Gth Inc	67.01	71.67	+ 0.43	...
European Growth	119.82	127.99	+ 0.26	0.15
Global Bond Inc	31.02	32.91†	+ 0.05	4.86
Mngd Pnsn Inc	40.95	43.80	+ 0.13	1.06

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL
071 490 7236

Short Dated Gilt	70.13	71.08	+ 0.05	4.91

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH
061 837 5060

Environ	148.20	154.50†	...	1.41
UK Growth	162.80	173.40†	- 0.40	1.92
UK Income	136.50	145.30	+ 0.10	3.84

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
High St, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA
0707 651 122

Can Gen Dist	186.80	198.00	- 0.30	1.82
-do- Income Dist	112.90	119.70†	- 0.10	4.46
Gilt & Fxd Int	45.11	47.81	- 0.05	5.81

For Cannon see Lincoln National

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF
061 236 5685 Exp: 061 236 5685 Dlg: 061 236 5362

American & Gen	145.40	154.70	- 0.40	...
European Inc	74.82	79.15	+ 0.04	0.75
Far East & Gen	62.15	66.12	+ 0.48	...
Smaller Cos (4-1)	75.78	80.62	- 0.08	1.58
Growth	418.20	448.00	- 0.90	2.17
Income & Growth	420.60	447.50	- 0.50	3.45
Master Portfolio	10532	109364	+ 5.00	1.98
Special Sits	96.39	102.55	- 0.14	2.12
High Yield	1343.0	1385.0†	- 1.00	3.97

CAPITAL HOUSE UNIT TST MGRS
Capital House, Festival Square, Edinburgh
031 228 4477 Dealing: 0800 833 561

American Gwth Tst	37.40	39.99	- 0.15	0.92
Cash Income	50.12	50.12†	- 0.01	5.53
European Gwth	37.53	40.13	+ 0.07	0.87
Income & Gwth Inc	27.93	29.87	- 0.04	4.14
Inuni Gwth	30.42	32.53	- 0.03	0.79
Japan Gwth	25.15	26.89	+ 0.07	...
Managed Tst Inc	48.84	52.23	- 0.04	0.50
Oriental Opps Inc	154.80	165.50	+ 2.30	0.59
Property Shares	42.80	45.77†	+ 0.23	1.78
Smaller Cos	29.96	32.04	- 0.09	1.65
UK Growth Tst	25.41	27.17	- 0.05	2.77
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	71.89	76.86	- 0.09	1.67
Cap Hse UK Inc	67.38	72.06†	- 0.24	2.37
Exempt	23.59	24.26	...	...
Formerly Brown Shipley				
European Inc	24.97	26.70	...	0.41
European Acc	25.90	27.69	...	...
Financial	150.20	160.60	...	2.65
Foundation	84.22	90.12	...	2.90
Germany	50.08	53.57†	...	0.07
High Income	77.99	83.30	...	6.25
Income	133.30	142.50†	...	3.89
Intl Growth	37.72	40.18†	...	0.16
Mngd Pfolio Inc	102.80	109.80	...	1.70
Mngd Pfolio Acc	195.60	209.10	...	...
Monthly Income	80.33	85.79	...	3.98
North American	110.90	118.60	...	0.15
Offsht	141.00	150.80	...	...

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH
071 606 9708

Cazenove Portfolio	80.87	86.50	+ 0.25	2.36
American Portfolio	99.94	95.90†	+ 0.29	0.96
European Portfolio	86.57	92.32	+ 0.28	0.82
Japanese Portfolio	59.95	63.88	+ 0.04	...
Pacific Portfolio	137.41	147.36†	+ 1.06	0.75
UK Inc & Growth	73.12	78.31	+ 0.20	4.14
Utility & Bond	58.68	59.35	+ 0.55	6.27

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
5 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BA 071 332 5000

UK Growth Tst	99.40	70.05	- 0.09	2.83
Global Tst	60.05	63.88	+ 0.26	0.30
Recovery Tst	67.90	72.23	- 0.19	1.82

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
151 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3AD
071 837 7667

Intl Growth	130.30	140.82	...	1.80
UK Growth	102.52	111.13	...	2.12
UK Income	109.31	118.47	...	4.09

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5906

Beckman Intl	90.28	95.39	...	1.77
Beck Blk-Tech	43.38	46.15†	...	...
Acorn Ethical Tst	146.83	154.56†	...	1.15
City Fin Assets	69.43	73.08	...	1.68
City Fin America	80.31	84.54	...	...
City Fin Intnl	72.69	76.55	...	...
City Fin Japan	155.74	163.94	...	...
Friars Hse Cap	265.46	280.48	...	2.32
Friars Hse Inc	204.16	216.04†	...	4.86
Stockjbr Wrld Gth	128.66	136.86	...	0.73
Fairmnt Cap Gth	135.41	142.54†	...	...
-do- Inc & Gth	114.91	120.96†	...	2.18
Fairmount Intl	150.06	157.96†	...	...
City Fin Pfflo Inc	61.15	65.05†	...	3.43

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
33 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1AJ 0992 412 144
Emerging Markets 53.06 56.30 + 0.20 ...

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373 393

American Gwth	57.43	61.92	- 0.18	...
Arbs Mngd Gwth	36.56	39.29	+ 0.17	3.11
Dynamic Growth	73.75	78.82	- 0.09	0.44
Equity High Inc	83.98	89.10†	- 0.06	3.51
European Gwth	47.04	49.91	+ 0.09	1.12
Evergreen	29.09	31.11	- 0.17	...
General Equity	25.34	27.10	- 0.03	3.17
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	27.85	29.26	+ 0.01	7.94
Japan Growth	43.58	47.04	+ 0.25	...
Pedigree Gwth	49.56	52.58	- 0.06	2.05
Ped Sm Cos Inc	30.63	32.50†	+ 0.09	0.84
Retirement Inc	26.57	28.57	+ 0.03	5.34
Special Sits	35.71	38.19	- 0.02	1.84
UK & Overseas	48.48	51.44	...	2.06

COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY
0634 898 000

Capital	64.37	68.85	- 0.15	2.79
Income	62.04	66.35	+ 0.04	3.75

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD
Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park,
Croydon CR0 2AQ 081 686 9855

PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PFT FUNDS)

Income Funds				
Equity Inc	164.85	175.34	- 0.05	5.04
Fixed & Convertible	45.91	48.84	+ 0.05	5.85
Monthly Inc Plus	52.88	56.26	...	7.96
Preference Share	52.71	56.07	+ 1.02	6.78
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	133.37	140.82	- 0.05	5.83
Managed Fund	67.71	72.03	+ 0.11	2.80
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	39.16	41.66	- 0.02	1.97
UK & General	76.96	81.87	- 0.20	2.64
UK Growth	133.37	141.88	- 0.36	1.63
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	172.45	183.46	- 0.81	...
Far Eastern Gth	132.25	140.69	- 2.42	0.30
Global Bond	87.60	93.09	- 0.38	5.73
Japan Growth	107.74	114.62	+ 1.05	...
North Amer Gwth	160.82	171.09	+ 1.50	...
Overseas Growth	83.09	88.39	+ 1.50	...
Worldwide Growth	61.87	65.82	- 0.16	0.25
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.12	92.12	+ 0.01	4.85
Homemaster Fund	75.49	80.31	- 0.07	1.91
Quilter Fund	135.90	144.57	- 0.46	2.06

CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD
Upton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN
0438 744 948

Growth Inc	57.51	61.18	- 0.11	2.90
High Income	34.17	36.35	...	4.40
Japan	31.89	33.92	+ 0.22	...
Smaller Cos Inc	28.88	30.72†	- 0.04	2.40
Smaller Cos	30.06	31.97†	- 0.04	0.40
North American	31.95	33.98	- 0.08	0.50
European	34.39	36.58	...	0.50

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
1 White Hart Yd, London Bridge SE1 1NX
071 407 5906
Consistent Ut 34.23 33.51 ... 4.42

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
78-80 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NJ 071 283 9494

Equity Dist	804.10	814.30†	...	3.74

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
0277 690 370

Fellowship Tst	69.32	73.75	+ 0.17	1.57
Income	238.70	251.90	...	3.41
Smaller Cos	137.30	146.10	+ 0.10	1.00
Inv Portfolio	75.40	80.25	+ 0.18	2.03
High Income Port	67.79	72.12	- 0.05	3.61

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3YS
071 488 0177

Euro Small Cos	1357.2	1385.0†	...	...
Japan Small Cos	1094.4	1116.3†	...	...
UK Small Cos	1626.6	1659.8†	...	...
US Small Cos	1599.6	1639.8†	...	...

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
66 Wilson Street, London EC2A 2BL
071 377 8819

Disc Inc	178.90	188.30	...	2.90

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
25, Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh 031 315 2000

European Gwth	235.00	248.50	+ 1.10	1.21
New Asia	211.60	228.00	+ 1.70	0.35
Japan Growth	112.10	119.30	+ 0.20	...
Jap Smlr Co	460.60	489.60	+ 1.90	...
Nth Amer	238.30	252.90†	- 1.10	0.96
Shlrd Asia Pac Mt	117.60	126.00	+ 0.50	0.50
UK Inc & Gwth	216.10	230.80†	- 0.20	3.51

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 577 555

UK Balanced Inc	136.10	144.80†	...	2.38
UK High Inc Inc	150.70	160.30†	+ 0.20	5.52
UK Pref & Fixed	92.81	97.68†	+ 0.06	6.51
Envrnmntl Opps	78.47	83.48	+ 0.04	1.47

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
37 Hanoverlet Terrace, Edinburgh
0345 090 525

American	118.70	126.10†	...	0.40
Convertibles	23.21	24.66	- 0.01	7.91
Equity Income	133.80	142.31	- 0.20	3.51
Eurofund	42.87	45.38	- 0.12	0.98
Financial	49.15	52.25	- 0.11	2.32
Global Inc	95.78	101.85	- 0.25	1.77
International	368.20	391.20	- 2.70	0.83
Intl Income	94.57	101.30	+ 0.40	2.57
Latin American	42.43	45.08	+ 0.66	0.26
Pacific	82.15	87.32	+ 1.47	0.34
Preference Share	25.14	26.71	...	5.80
Tokyo	193.10	205.00	+ 0.91	...
UK Smaller Cos	221.60	235.50	...	1.00

ELCON LTD
Central Ct, Knoll Rise, Orpington BR6 0JA
0689 76538

Elcon Trust	205.50	219.70	...	...

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU
071 373 7266

Endurance Fd	192.70	205.00		0.45

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7QN
0296 431 450

European	73.26	77.12	+ 0.43	1.70
Far Eastern	305.01	321.06	+ 3.47	1.43
High Income	132.70	139.68†	+ 0.34	4.42
Intl Growth	112.72	118.65	- 1.27	1.13
North American	119.82	121.92	- 0.77	0.93
Pelican	117.33	123.51	+ 0.04	3.04
Smaller Cos	71.25	75.00†	- 0.16	2.00
Special Sits	80.88	91.45	- 0.26	1.76
Tst of Inv Trsts	175.50	195.06	- 0.21	2.02

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5906

Smaller Cos Inc	199.92	197.94	- 0.43	1.76
Smaller Cos Acc	328.80	342.68	- 0.74	1.76
Recovery	48.32	48.29	- 0.24	2.25

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
23 Cathedral Yard, Exeter EX1 1HB
0392 412 144

Balanced	119.20	126.56†	+ 0.12	4.94
Capital Growth	78.04	82.89	+ 0.10	...
Fd of Inv Trsts	42.16	44.98	+ 0.16	0.25
High Income	48.94	52.21	+ 0.12	8.45
Warrant	57.25	60.22	+ 0.03	...
Zero Preference	32.25	30.58†	...	...

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
10 West Street, Brighton BN1 2RE 0273 220 707

Family Asset Tst	72.96	77.41	...	2.79
Family Income Tst	50.95	54.02	...	6.20
Family Trust	78.62	83.64	...	1.66
United Charities	238.30	253.50†	...	3.69

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ
Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161
Broker Dealings: 0800 414 181

Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	4.80
Cash Fund				
Stanlbtwr Growth Range				
Controlled Risk UK	25.15	26.49	+ 0.01	3.16
-do- Europe	24.68	26.01	+ 0.01	4.95
-do- America	23.70	24.97	- 0.11	0.56
-do- Asc Japan	28.52	30.06	- 0.04	0.78
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	31.58	31.87†	- 0.03	6.29
Intl Bond	32.37	33.80	+ 0.07	4.98
Income Funds				
High Income				
Income Plus	141.60	149.30†	- 0.30	7.42
Aimer Eq Inc	47.22	50.08	- 0.08	0.73
European Income	41.08	43.68	+ 0.17	2.68
Far East Inc	64.76	69.34†	+ 0.28	2.42
Global Convertible	23.72	25.31	- 0.06	2.53
Equity Funds

Shares close unchanged

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began November 29. Dealings end December 10. §Contango day December 13. Settlement day December 20. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
461	345	Abbey Ntl	460	+15	11.6	3.2	17.7
290	179	Allied Irish	278	-2	...	3.7	14.2
221	130	Aus New Z	220	+3	...	4.0	∞
3806¼	2712½	Bankamerica	3012½	+25	...	...	...
295	177	Bk of Ireland	275	-1	...	4.5	20.3
350	325	Bk Leumi UK	350	...	17.0	6.1	...
217¼	116¼	Bank Scotland	217	+2	4.6	2.7	29.5
627	362	Barclays	626	+12	...	3.5	...
4½	2	Benchmark	4½	...	...	...	...
23¼	15¼	Carlisle	22	...	...	...	5.9
508	395	Cater Allen	508	...	28.0	5.9	...
153	85	Cattle	145	+2	...	3.9	10.3
2487¼	1787¼	Chase Manh	2287¼	-12¼	...	...	...
2600	1543¼	Citicorp	2412½	+50	...	...	...
485	250	Close Bros	485	...	...	...	...
£149¼	9275	Commerzbk	£149¼	+237½	...	2.8	17.6
£142¼	1250¼	Deutsche Bk	£137¼	+9¼	...	2.7	...
95	45	First Nat Fin	65	-2	...	1.6	...
1661	876	Fuji Bank Y	1401	...	...	1.0	...
529	343	Gerrard Nat	459	...	...	0.4	...
756	490	HSBC	748	...	21.5	5.9	12.2
798	474	HSBC HK	788	-11	20.0	3.2	18.0
403	243	Hambros	382	-10	20.0	3.1	19.1
428	313	Joseph (L)	420	-3	14.3	4.7	17.6
155	96	King Shaxson	135	...	16.7	5.0	...
542	312	Kleinwort Ben	542	...	9.0	8.6	...
647¼	492	Lloyds	646	+4	16.7	3.9	18.8
118	63	Lon Scot Bk	75	+8	19.1	3.7	16.5
575	322	Nat Aust Bk	543	...	2.9	3.8	18.8
602¼	398	Nat West	560	+4	...	4.0	∞
460	270	Provident	440	+1	17.8	3.7	36.4
54	39	Rea Bros	50	...	12.4	3.5	19.1
448	207	Ryl Bk Scot	446	...	0.5	1.4	53.1
1335	467¼	Schroders	1233	+7	...	3.1	23.4
1200	576	Stand Chart	1195	+5	...	1.2	24.4
257¼	145¼	TSB	235	+2	20.5	2.1	...
190	78	Union Disc	168	+1	6.4	3.4	...
940	529	Warburg SG	885	...	...	...	...
8600	4843¼	Wells Fargo	8062½	+4	...	2.8	12.9
205	121	Westpac	200	+150	...	2.5	...
325	188	Wintrust	320	+2	9.3	3.6	28.6

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
646	517	Allied-Lyons	620	+6	...	4.4	17.0
647	441	Bass	535	-1	...	3.8	14.1
299	189	Boddington	277	+1	7.5	3.4	16.1
450	362	Bulmer (HP)	423	-4	...	3.0	18.5
184	129	Burtonwd Brw	160	...	4.7	3.3	15.3
134	75	Eldridge P 'A'	134	+9	...	3.4	∞
70¼	50	Fosters Brewing	64½	-½	...	4.1	∞
435	338	Fuller Sm 'A'	415	...	...	2.2	17.8
480	373	Grand Met	434	-1	...	3.8	16.6
427	347	Greenalls Grp	405	-3	12.0	3.7	13.4
575	505	Greene King	569	-1	...	2.7	16.1
521	388	Guinness	469	-4	...	3.2	17.5
281	230	Hardy Hansn	257	...	7.8	4.1	13.2
138	105	Heavitree	115	...	3.0	3.3	27.4
353	255	Highland Distl	330	...	...	2.5	16.4
3138	2538	Holt J	3125	...	42.0	1.7	31.4
80	33	Hoskins Brew	78	...	...	...	...
323	250	Invrgordn Dist	301	...	...	2.9	17.2
186	116	Macallan-Glen	130	...	4.3	4.2	29.2
465	375	Macdn Martn 'A'	393	...	...	2.8	18.7
225	164	Mansfield	192	...	...	2.5	13.8
299	231	Matson Thmp	293	...	...	2.5	17.1
553	266¼	Matthew Clark	553	...	...	4.1	18.4
300	210	Merrydown W	223	...	7.0	3.9	17.5
578	455	Morland	578	...	9.7	2.1	∞
12	6¼	Paramount	9¼	...	...	2.1	∞
324	145	Regent Inns	204	...	...	2.8	20.7
1195	753	SA Breweries	1184	-5	...	2.3	20.0
539	393	Scot & New	526¼	+2¼	...	4.1	16.0
225	165	Taunton Cider	167	-20	6.2	4.9	12.8
270	213	Vaux Group	270	...	9.3	4.3	18.6
357	225	Wetherspoon JD	329	-2	...	2.1	25.5
574¼	435	Whitbread 'A'	564	+3	...	4.0	13.5
613	463	Wolvrhmptn D	532	+1	11.6	2.8	15.0
515	475	Young 'A'	485	...	14.7	3.8	20.1

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
140	73	Abbey	140	...	...	1.7	23.0
25¼	12¼	Albrighton	19	...	...	...	...
148	87	Allen	147	...	...	4.3	32.9
120	65	Amec	113	-1	3.0	3.3	20.9
12	4	Anglia Sec	7¼	...	...	...	...
336	150	Ashtead	332	+2	...	1.8	34.1
143	101	Atwoods	125	...	...	5.0	...
302	180	BPB Ind	301	+1	...	3.2	36.0
91	57	Baggeridge Brk	90	...	3.1	4.3	30.2
31	18	Bailey (Ben) Con	26	...	0.6	2.9	...
108	74	Barcom	83	...	1.2	1.9	15.1
56¼	32½	Bardon	43	-½	2.0	5.8	21.2
195	94	Barratt Devs	194	...	4.0	2.6	∞
460	305	Bellway	456	-1	12.0	3.3	∞
43	15	Bellwinch	39	...	...	...	...
452	295¼	Berkeley Gp	449	-1	...	1.7	28.1
116	45	Bett Bros	110	...	...	2.3	14.2
63	36	Blockleys	45	-2	1.0	2.8	49.7
346	199	Blue Circle	332	-5	...	4.2	...
285	230	Boot (Henry)	273	...	6.0	2.7	15.3
105	76	Breedon PLC	92	...	4.6	6.2	22.6
131	62	Br Dredging	130	...	5.2	5.0	28.9
98	43	Brit Fittings	81	...	1.7	2.7	...
155	99	Bryant	154	...	...	3.9	31.1
121	53	CALA	120	...	...	2.4	...
340	200	CRH	331	-4	...	2.6	18.2
43	16	Cakebread Rbv	30	...	...	...	...
41¼	21	Costain	27¼	+¼	...	...	...
150	80¼	Countryside	149	...	...	3.4	39.4
100	36	Crest Nicholson	99	...	0.0	...	...
112	27	Cussins	107	...	...	1.2	...
7¼	1¼	Dunton	4¼	...	...	...	...
19	15	Edmond Hldgs	19	...	0.3	2.0	...
285	178	Epwin	276	...	7.0	3.2	23.4
59	32	Erith	56	...	0.3	0.8	...
506	252	Eve Group	505	...	...	2.5	18.2
6¼	3	Explaura	4¼	...	...	...	...
140	97	Freeman Gp	131	...	...	4.8	20.8
50	38	Galliford	38	...	...	3.3	...
51	32	Gibbs & Dandy	80	...	...	3.1	...
925	695	Gleeson (MJ)	915	...	12.7	1.7	∞
164	90	Hewden-Stuart	156	...	...	2.6	27.8
51	28	Hewetson	46	...	...	3.4	33.6
380	156	Heywd Wlm	380	-4	13.0	4.5	...
119	77	Higgs & Hill	110	...	2.5	2.8	...
38	25	How Gp	28	...	...	5.0	...
21	15	Howard Hldgs	21	...	0.5	3.0	...
75	39	Ibstock Johnsen	68	-1	1.0	1.8	...
19¼	12¼	Jarvis	13¼	...	...	...	...
316	196	Laing (J)	304	-1	9.0	3.7	12.2
125¼	103	-do- 6.4% Cv Pf	120¼	...	...	6.6	...
110	55	Ln Clydeside	110	...	4.5	5.1	41.4
15	10¼	Lovell (YJ)	15	-½	...	...	7.2
350	240	Manders	314	...	9.3	3.7	19.2
182	95	Marley	170	-1	4.2	3.1	49.9
127	91	Marshalls	120	-3	...	4.2	...
190	122	Maunders (J)	190	...	...	3.4	18.3
217	96	McAlpine (A)	204	...	6.5	4.0	35.3
47	23	McCarthy & S	39	-3	0.5	1.6	...
477	272	Meyer Intl	472	-3	...	2.6	47.3
129	62	Mowlem (J)	120	-1	4.0	4.2	...
165	51	NSM	155	...	...	...	...
53	46	Needler	48	...	...	3.7	22.4
171	106	Newman Tnks	157	...	...	5.3	21.0
300	197	Persimmon	279	...	8.6	3.9	28.5
26	10	Phoenix Timber	10	...	...	...	...
1725	1237¼	Pochins	1550	...	29.0	2.4	21.8
163	83	Prowting	153	...	3.4	2.8	...
6¼	1¼	[illegible]	1½	...	...	...	...
905	555	RMC Gp	890	-3	...	2.8	33.4
117	77¼	Raine Ind	81	-2	...	4.6	19.2
36	16	Ransom	23	...	...	...	...
562	422	Redland	563	-5	25.0	5.6	32.8
96	64	Roskel	80	...	4.3	6.7	11.8
305	207	Rugby Group	299	-3	6.4	2.7	22.9
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	65	...	...	0.5	...
103	64	Sharpe & Fisher	162	...	...	3.1	28.2
245	86	Sheffield Insl	243	-5	...	2.8	59.6
175	92	Sheriff Hldgs	175	...	...	1.6	26.1
95	60	Shorco	93	...	...	7.0	21.1
240	196	Smart (J)	222	...	...	4.8	16.7
6	1¼	Starmin	2	...	...	...	...
160	100	Tarmac	158	+½	5.5	4.3	...
194	137	Tay Homes	171	-1	...	4.4	20.3
159	65	Taylor Woodrw	121	-1	1.0	1.0	...
633	433	Tilbury Dougls	604	...	33.0	6.8	19.7
39	19	Tovex Hire	34	...	...	1.5	...
291	168	Travis Perkins	289	-1	8.0	3.5	30.9
40	25	Try Group	28	...	1.0	4.5	7.9
25	21	Tudor	21	...	...	1.5	...
99	41	Vibroplant	88	...	2.5	3.6	30.9
65	30	Ward Hldgs	46	+5	...	...	...
36	25	Waterhouse	33	-2	...	...	...
475	360	Watts Blake	427	...	...	3.5	18.4
21¼	6¼	Westcola	20	...	...	...	...
150	90	Westbury	179	...	5.0	3.5	27.9
12	4¼	West Scaffold	7	...	...	...	...
4¼	3	Wiggins	3¼	...	...	...	...
457¼	362	Wilson Bowdn	453	+7	...	3.4	31.9
205	147	Wilson (C)	187	...	3.9	2.6	32.4
194	104	Wimpey G	176	+1	...	3.7	...
47	15	YRM	19	...	0.5	3.3	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
675	465	ADT	599	-2	...	...	...
256	196	Adam & Harvey	249	...	13.0	6.6	4.5
52	[illegible]	Air London	61	...	...	7.2	10.9
65	37	African Lakes	44	...	2.0	5.7	...
178	63	Auto Sec	135	-2	...	5.6	24.2
159	44	BET Ord	134½	-1	...	2.1	5.4
115	41	BNB Res	114	...	4.9	5.4	...
316	155	BPP	230	...	8.3	4.5	12.7
259	195	Barbour Index	240	...	8.0	4.2	16.4
33	17	Boustead	24	...	0.7	3.6	...
250	154	Brit Data Mgt	230	...	4.7	2.6	16.8
36	11	Broadcastle	22	...	...	1.4	17.5
75	54	Brooks Service	62	-1	...	1.0	...
104	86	CRT Gp	96	+1	...	3.8	16.9
193	137	Capita Group	190	...	...	1.5	29.7
45	31	Casket Plc	42	-½	...	2.7	16.1
34	16	Chiltern Capital	22¼	...	...	...	...
55	20	Christie	55	...	...	...	...
364	226	Chubb Sec	365	-19	...	1.8	22.5
110	40	Comax	104	...	...	1.7	28.5
37	[illegible]	Corp Services	36	...	...	...	...
61	31	Coutts Cnslg	67	...	...	...	...
142	50	Dart	142	+2	3.3	2.9	19.1
256	196	Davis Service	214	-3	...	4.7	16.1
115	65	EW Fact	115	+4	4.4	4.9	13.2
32	11	Gardiner	26½	...	0.4	2.0	18.5
277	215	Hays	266	-2	...	2.5	23.2
246	174	Hogg Robinsn	234	+5	...	3.6	17.1
70	34	Holmes Protectn	39	...	...	...	3.4
286	127	Hutch Whamp	286	-2	...	1.7	23.9
2175	975	ISS B DKr	2050	...	...	1.0	14.1
627	475	Inchcape	536	-13	...	3.4	17.1
575	469	Johnson Clean	568	...	25.7	3.7	18.9
12	2	Lep	7¼	...	...	...	...
266	173	Mitie Gp	251	-4	3.5	1.6	21.1
1187	893	Manpower	1096	...	...	...	...
62	40	Michael Page	59	-½	1.8	3.5	25.1
271	115	Pennat	115	...	...	8.7	4.3
4¼	2	Prime People	3¼	...	...	...	...
142	57	Proudfoot Alex	64	...	...	...	...
423	337	RCO	384	...	14.1	4.6	13.2
119	80	REA	97	...	2.0	2.6	...
109	43	Reed Executive	95	...	...	...	...
159	106	Reliance Sec	110	...	...	3.1	23.9
228	175	Rentokil	208	+1	2.5	1.5	25.9
285	220	Relfe & Nolan	282	...	...	3.2	15.9
303	234	Salvesen (C)	267	-6	...	3.8	19.0
36	25	Scot Pickford	35	...	...	2.9	11.2
10	5	Select App	7	...	...	...	...
1278	695	Serco Gp	1273	-2	13.3	1.3	35.2
352	83	Sherwd Cmp	97	+2	...	0.0	2.8
136	90	Sketchley	100	...	...	3.8	22.9
355	310	Warner Howrd	330	...	6.6	2.5	17.2
45	27	Welpac	28	...	...	...	...
28	14	Wills Gp	26	...	...	1.9	18.2

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
249	210	Allied Colloids	228	-10	...	2.4	20.9
965	613	Amersham	967	+3	...	1.8	33.5
7	[illegible]	Anglo Utd	2	...	...	...	...
£112	[illegible]	BASF DM	£109¼	-4½	...	6.0	...
300	189	BTP	296	+1	...	4.1	19.7
£139¼	£101¼	Bayer DM	£134	...	...	4.1	...
176	115	Blagden	134	-1	6.5	6.6	13.4
[illegible]	95	Brent Chems	115	...	...	8.0	10.5
530	245	Br Bio-Tech	365	-9	...	...	...
45	8	Card Gp	8	...	...	22.2	16.7
180	120	Cantium	145	...	7.2	6.3	10.6
608	421	Courtaulds	546	-14	...	4.0	11.2
347	226	Croda	345	...	...	2.9	19.8
149	121	Doeflex	122	...	4.6	4.7	9.4
226	175	Ellis & Everard	211	+1	...	4.2	20.2
42	15¼	Euro Colour	35¼	...	0.8	3.1	17.0
345	259	Halstead (J)	345	-2	...	2.4	17.1
241	150	Hickson	158	+2	...	6.3	14.6
£11½	8450	Hoechst	£11½	+37½	...	3.3	...
175	112	Holliday Chem	172	...	...	2.7	15.8
747	606	ICI	747	+2	10.9	3.7	18.7
[illegible]	[illegible]	Laporte	679	-2	...	5.0	18.9
[illegible]	181	Leigh	198	...	...	...	...
47	35	MTM	47	...	...	1.5	26.5
2050	1462¼	Norsk Hydro	1862¼	...	...	...	...
464	370	Paterson Zoch	451	...	...	3.5	15.2
420	360	-do- 'A'	405	...	...	3.9	13.7
296	199	Plysu	206	...	...	4.2	13.4
303	173	Porvair	292	-3	3.8	1.6	31.2
70	35	Sutcliffe Speak	47	...	...	...	...
485	412	Wardle Storeys	420	+5	...	5.1	19.4
550	395	Wolstnholme R	548	...	17.0	3.9	18.7
425	330	Yorks Chem	395	...	...	2.5	21.2
300	233	Yule Catto	261	-1	...	2.9	16.3
799	501	Zeneca	790	-7	...	4.4	46.7

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
102	53	Alexon	67	...	...	5.6	...
87	42	Amber Day	80	+1	1.3	2.8	∞
771	257	Argos Plc	368	-2	...	2.4	31.4
25	9¼	Ashley Group	11¼	-½	...	2.0	...
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	85	-2	0.1	0.1	...
330	278	Aspley	315	...	5.1	2.0	21.7
154	94	Austin Reed	146	...	...	2.1	...
155	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	148	...	...	5.2	14.9
121	94	Bentalls	110	...	1.9	2.2	...
276	132	Betterware	149	-4	...	1.8	17.8
47	22	Blacks Leis	41	-1	2.2	7.0	...
227	133	Body Shop	212	-1	...	1.0	22.3
10¼	10¼	Brown & Jackson	11	...	...	0.9	5.7
434	318	Brown (N)	424	...	...	2.2	24.9
87¼	61¼	Burton	64¼	+1½	2.0	3.9	∞
187	126	Canons	187	...	4.0	2.7	∞
360	295	Church	334	...	12.5	4.7	29.7
183	97	Clinton Cards	155	...	4.3	3.5	18.7
289¼	212	Coats Viyella	273	+1	...	3.4	37.7
112	78	Colourvision	83	...	5.6	8.4	14.9
161	154	Ctry Casuals	157	...	...	3.3	14.6
935	374	Courts Furnish	898	-35	5.5	0.8	11.3
155	115	Crown Eyes	145	...	...	6.6	9.7
130	89	Dairy Farm Intl	112	-5	...	3.3	16.5
91¼	51¼	Dewhirst (IJ)	91¼	...	0.8	1.1	39.4
295	189	Dixons Grp	282	-3	...	2.7	...
21	8	ERA Gp	8¼	-1¼	...	...	69.7
530	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	530	...	16.0	3.6	18.2
166	71	Essex Furn	150	-1	...	2.9	34.0
273	203	Etam	230	...	7.0	3.8	21.1
608	490	Fine Art Dev	575	+4	12.7	2.8	18.8
70	26	Fired Earth Tiles	47	...	...	...	...
620	498	Forminster	620	...	14.0	2.8	11.3
180	24	French Conn	117	-4	...	...	...
74	43	Gent SR	69	-1	...	3.8	21.4
78	23	Goldsmiths Gp	78	...	0.3	0.5	...
600	334	GUS	584	-14	...	2.4	18.7
40	23	Hampden Grp	23	...	...	5.4	11.4
277	30	Hartstone	38	...	...	9.2	...
29	20	Helene Plc	28½	...	2.0	8.8	13.5
79	29	Heritage	75	...	...	...	...
79	35	Honeysuckle	67	...	...	...	...
161	63	Jacques Vert	154	-2	...	2.4	11.8
737	496	Kingfisher	734	-2	...	2.4	25.3
74	62¼	Leslie Wise Gp	73	...	4.0	6.8	15.0
685	495	Liberty	545	...	7.2	1.7	64.2
325	241	Lloyds Chem	307	...	...	3.0	10.8
152	120	MFI	144	-6	...	3.3	30.3
457	311	Marks Spencer	454	-2	...	2.3	23.2
580	445	Menzies (John)	560	...	...	2.4	15.9
253	135	Moss Bros	229	...	5.5	3.0	26.0
212	139¼	Next	207	...	3.5	2.1	24.7
41	15	Oliver (G)	39	...	...	...	...
324	197	Oriflame Intl	319	+4	...	3.9	15.4
63	35	Pentos	35	...	0.8	2.9	7.3
313	185	QS Hldgs	225	...	5.1	2.9	16.0
69¼	20¼	Rhino Grp	62	...	...	...	...
170	120	Rosebys	170	...	...	3.6	20.4
181	135	Sherwood Gp	146	...	...	2.2	13.2
131¼	93	Sears	128	-2¼	...	3.4	...
41¼	11	Signet Group	20	-2	...	...	...
512	400	Smith WH 'A'	492	...	...	3.6	16.1
20	4¼	Specialeyes	17	-1	...	...	...
230	176	Storehouse	230	+2	...	2.7	22.5
191	148	T & S Stores	150	...	6.0	5.0	11.2
162	71	Tie Rack	143	+1	1.0	0.9	23.4
239	160	Time Products	232	...	7.7	4.2	20.0
128	63	Usher (Frank)	108	...	...	6.9	9.3
364	302	Vendome	359	+13	...	2.1	16.7
45	27	Vivat	36	...	1.0	3.5	11.1
48	34	Wensum	44	...	...	5.3	...
120	76	Wickes	111	-6	...	0.2	50.5
78	45	Wld of Leather	54	...	...	...	...
192¼	142	Wyevale	171	...	...	3.1	22.6
4	2¼	Xtra-vision	2¼	...	...	...	...

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
187	134	ACT Group	149	-2	...	4.2	15.0
275	223	Acal	266	...	...	3.1	18.4
162¼	38	Acorn Comp	90	...	...	...	45.6
480	385	Admiral	470	...	5.7	1.5	19.9
170	104	Alba	163	...	...	3.7	20.3
50	19¼	Alphameric	39¼	...	...	...	...
55	22	Amstrad	42	...	0.5	1.5	∞
128	61	App Holo	74	...	...	...	...
43	9¼	Arlen	35	-1	...	...	...
88	35¼	Astec	74¼	...	...	0.4	...
293	224	Beales Hunter	234	...	...	5.0	14.5
9	2	Bennett & Fount	2¼	...	...	...	...
446	319	BICC	400	...	19.2	6.0	...
558	408	Blick	445	-3	...	2.9	17.8
1700	925	Borland	1200	...	...	...	...
372	274	Bowthorpe	372	+2	6.4	2.2	24.3
484¼	376	BT	467	-½	...	4.4	17.8
232¼	150	BT P/P	215	...	...	4.3	22.1
18¼	5¼	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	16	...	0.1	0.8	...
160	48	Burnfield	55	...	5.7	13.1	8.7
509	354¼	Cable Wireless	499	+2	...	1.9	25.9
27¼	11¼	Chloride	23¼	-½	...	...	...
273	229	CML Micro	270	...	...	2.2	19.6
115	74	Comptr People	108	...	...	...	...
164	108¼	Cray Elect	154	+3	...	1.2	15.8
433	243	Critchley	423	...	...	1.4	24.3
554	414	Delta	475	-1	...	3.7	19.8
443	205	Denmans Ele	443	...	...	1.7	18.9
620	395	Domino	420	-5	7.4	2.2	14.3
66	48	Dowding Mills	64½	...	...	4.8	27.6
1205	865	Drake	1203	...	10.0	1.0	25.7
482	358	Electrocomponts	480	...	...	2.2	19.6
710	470	El Data Prc	625	-38	3.5	1.1	∞
146	43	Electron House	135	...	...	2.4	29.6
30¼	10¼	Emess	19	-½	0.1	0.7	...
650	442	Eurotherm	650	+12	8.5	1.6	29.6
187¼	108	FKI	182	...	...	2.3	26.6
547¼	340	Farnell Elect	538	-1	...	1.5	28.5
91	33	Feedback	80	...	...	2.3	10.4
18	1	Ferranti	1	...	...	...	...
280	101	First Tech	275	-1	...	0.5	22.9
270	81	Forward Gp	239	-2	...	2.1	21.6
32¼	13¼	Forward Tech	14¼	...	...	...	...
367¼	264	GEC	323	-1	10.4	4.1	16.0
199	132	Graseby	150	-5	...	9.1	31.6
14	7¼	Graystone	10¼	...	...	...	...
53	36	Hiclare	41	-1	...	1.5	...
169	83	INSTEM	135	...	...	2.9	9.7
169	118	Ind Control	150	...	...	3.2	15.1
388	320	Jones Stroud	388	...	...	2.8	15.6
105	36	Kalamazoo	100	...	2.7	3.4	23.0
19	8	Kenmrey	12¼	...	0.1	1.6	...
349	260	Kenwood App	327	...	...	3.0	18.2
265	47	Kewill Sys	235	...	...	...	...
209	100	Kode	165	...	6.0	4.5	19.6
60	16	Laser-Scan	19	...	...	...	...
365	122	LDMS	160	-3	...	0.6	22.6
300	205	Lec Refrig	265	...	9.0	4.2	...
179	129	Life Sciences	132	...	3.7	3.6	14.3
285	164	Logica	267	-1	...	1.9	30.8
55	44	LPA Ind	52	...	...	8.5	14.7
229	162	MR Data Mngmt	215	...	...	3.0	20.2
718	523	Macro 4	655	...	...	3.4	19.9
243	175¼	Menvier-Swn	235	...	...	2.0	20.8
3013	968	Micro Focus	988	-2	...	...	9.1
227	144	Microgen	146	...	7.2	6.2	9.9
35¼	23¼	Microvitec	32¼	...	...	...	...
529	357	Misys	524	...	...	1.7	19.1
584	98	Mitel	416	-10	...	...	...
153	108	MMT Comp	143	...	...	3.5	19.5
52	16	Molynx	40¼	-½	...	1.3	...
272	202	MTL Instr	250	...	...	1.9	18.8
165	103	Multitone Elect	140	...	3.5	3.1	25.4
240	116	Murray Enter	233	...	...	2.1	...
3209¼	2612¼	NYNEX	2812¼	...	...	...	...
188	128	Neotronics	130	...	2.6	2.5	16.8
65	42	Newmark (L)	56	...	...	...	...
277	58	Norbain	268	-1	...	0.7	20.6
75	20	Northamber	58	...	0.6	1.3	...
15¼	7	Oceonics	7	-1½	...	...	...
300	195	Oxford Inst	295	-4	4.6	2.0	20.2
83	45	P-E Internt'l	73	...	...	...	...
81¼	29	P & P	61	...	1.5	3.1	32.4
85	55	Peek	80	-1	3.4	5.3	20.9
227	115	Pegasus	210	-4	...	3.8	53.9
9750	9000	Philips Fn 4%	9750	...	...	5.9	...
1437¼	725	-do- [illegible]	1350	+12½	...	...	...
313	211	Phonelink	311	+3	...	...	...
290	171¼	Pilco	274	...	...	1.9	23.0
280	151¼	-do- 'A' Voting	264	...	...	2.0	22.1
96	63	Plasmec	73	...	...	5.1	6.2
120	76	Pressac	103	-2	...	3.1	21.8
188	81	Psion	172	-1	...	1.8	45.7
261	147	Racal Elect	158	-1	4.2	3.4	9.3
70	41	Radamec	41	...	...	4.6	8.8
70	24	Radius	27	...	2.2	10.4	9.3
92	61	Real Time	73	...	...	5.1	15.0
35	18	Riva	26	...	...	...	33.0
629	367	Sage Gp	444	+5	9.3	2.6	14.2
348	222	Sanderson Elec	300	...	9.9	4.1	12.8
88	49	Scantronic	76	...	3.1	5.1	19.2
181	117	Scholes Grp	155	...	...	4.0	20.1
375	270	Sema Gp	318	...	2.0	1.1	25.8
42	36	Silvermines	40	-1	...	2.9	...
51	37	Soundtracks	51	...	...	5.6	17.2
2675	1737¼	TDK	2175	-12¼	...	1.5	24.6
27	4¼	TDS Circuits	11¼	...	...	...	...
198	80	Telemetrix	147	-1	0.8	0.7	24.2
1017	809	THORN EMI	989	+9	...	4.1	22.7
152	96	Thorpe FW	133	...	...	2.5	15.5
103	38	Total Systems	38	...	3.0	9.9	6.7
575	372	Tunstall	573	+20	7.0	1.5	∞
295	164	Unitech	255	...	...	3.0	60.4
11¼	6	Verity	9	...	...	...	...
35	22¼	Vistec	25¼	...	...	1.8	14.5
585	367	Vodafone	557	-4	...	1.7	24.2
475	368	Volex	419	+4	18.1	5.5	16.9
26	11	Western Selectn	19	...	...	...	...
290	223	Wholesale Figs	260	...	11.7	5.6	27.6

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
623	389	East Midlands	616	+7	...	4.0	11.6
649	399	Eastern Elect	646	+11	...	4.0	12.2
451	304	Hydro-Elect	431	+11	...	3.5	15.6
631	404	London Elect	628	+8	...	3.9	13.9
699	458	Manweb	699	+21	...	3.8	10.1
677	424¼	Midlands Elec	675	+22	...	4.0	10.5
425	273	National Powr	422¼	+2	...	3.3	10.5
676	440	Northern Elec	674	+13	...	4.0	9.7
241	100	Nthn Ireland	241	+15	...	3.5	12.0
690	439	Norweb	688	+11	20.0	3.6	10.7
476¼	273	PowerGen	475	+4	...	2.9	12.4
434	285	Scottish Power	433	+11	...	3.4	15.9
696	436	Seeboard	695	+12	...	3.6	11.2
708	409	Sth Wales	699	-2	...	4.2	10.6
686	426	Sth Western	656	+14	...	3.8	10.4
659	406	Southern Elec	658	+15	...	3.7	12.1
659	455	Yorkshire Elec	658	+11	...	3.9	12.4

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60¼	50	Aitken Hume	55	...	1.0	2.5	11.7
133	47	BWD	128	...	...	3.3	20.0
101	26	Baltic Plc	100	-1	...	1.2	...
625	415	Caledonia	623	...	...	3.1	23.2
1850	1075	Camellia	1825	...	...	2.1	6.8
318	243	Candover	304	...	10.4	4.3	21.5
290	71	Plenech	289	+3	...	0.2	...
352	156	Govett	332	...	...	4.9	9.7
188	125	Ivory Sime	165	...	...	4.9	15.5
6¼	3	LIT	5¼	...	...	...	...
240	154	Lon Forfaiting	235	...	8.7	4.6	17.1
77	47	Manakin	76	...	5.0	8.2	∞
12¼	3¼	Nat Home Loan	9¼	-¼	...	...	...
52	40	Newmarket	52	...	...	...	...
341	246	Rathbone Brs	304	...	6.5	2.7	18.5
26	17	Rutland Tst	20	...	...	5.0	11.9
340	253	S & U	309	...	10.2	4.1	11.5
85	48	Singer & Fried	79	...	...	4.7	...
1038	713	Sotheby's	1005	...	...	3.4	...
136	113	SIP Capital	116	...	3.0	3.2	47.8

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2556¼	1487¼	Amer Express	2087¼	-21¼	...	...	...
1133	835	Henderson Ad	975	...	...	5.4	22.5
200	92	Invesco	175	+3	...	2.1	...
292	161	Jardine Strat	270	+4	...	2.9	11.3
244	154	MAI	244	+4	...	3.5	15.5
728	389	MAM	682	-1	16.0	2.9	17.0
1005	633	M & G	951	...	...	2.8	25.3
433	109	Smith New Ct	411	-11	...	2.1	4.0
81	45	Trio Hldgs	51	+2	...	7.4	...

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
545	456	AB Food	539	+1	...	3.5	11.0
77¼	46¼	ASDA Group	48¼	...	1.6	4.1	11.7
320	170	Acatos & Hutch	316	...	7.6	3.0	18.2
80	55	Albert Fisher	63	-1	3.7	7.4	∞
407	246	Argyll	257¼	+1	...	5.5	9.1
230	160	Banks (S C)	220	...	9.0	5.1	9.8
402	305	Barr (AG)	305	...	6.5	2.7	15.4
85	57	Bensons Crisp	62	...	...	5.7	13.9
141	100	Berisford Intl	106	...	...	...	...
455	357	Booker	390	...	...	7.0	33.8
52	35	Borthwick	50	...	...	3.0	61.5
505	430	Brake Bros	474	...	6.3	1.7	19.7
51	38	Budgen	41	...	...	3.0	12.5
503	407	Cadbury-Schw	467	-3	...	3.6	16.5
143	78	Carrs Milling	129	...	3.9	3.8	25.8
196	135	Cranswick	137	-3	...	7.4	10.1
22	8¼	Cullens	13	...	0.5	4.8	37.3
384	119	Dalepak	130	+8	6.0	5.8	10.2
521	424	Dalgety	477	-4	...	5.4	13.6
54	27	Daniels S	50	...	...	0.6	...
256	191	Devro	256	+2	...	2.7	24.3
134	99	Everest	101	...	...	4.6	18.3
383	269	Farepak	374	+3	5.7	1.9	23.0
10	3	Farringford	7	...	...	...	...
94	64	Finlay (James)	73	...	...	7.1	24.2
125	78	Fyffes	100	...	...	1.5	18.0
483	307	Geest	308	...	8.1	3.3	13.9
16	7	Global	14	...	...	4.5	21.8
50	43	Grand Central	49	...	0.8	2.0	...
303	139	Hazlewood Fds	153	...	...	5.4	8.5
175	131	Hillsdown	150	+½	8.8	7.3	11.8
250	147¼	Iceland Group	147¼	-6½	...	3.0	9.3
131	92	JLI Group	103	...	...	5.8	11.2
853	543	Kwik Save	544	+1	...	4.2	9.8
262	144	Low (Wm)	152	-1	...	6.9	5.3
83	41	Matthews (B)	76	...	2.3	3.9	49.8
19¼	11	Merchant Retail	13¼	-¼	0.9	8.9	22.2
174	84	Morrison (W)	89	+1	...	1.2	11.6
233	177	Nichols (JN)	226	...	5.5	3.1	16.4
291	209	Nthn Foods	219	+7	...	4.9	10.5
20¼	9	Nthmbrn Fn	9	-2	...	...	...
229	172	Nurdin Peack	190	-1	...	4.1	10.5
251	205	Park Foods	244	...	...	3.1	18.8
115	74	Perkins Food	74	-8	...	7.5	8.5
114	47	PizzaExpress	107	+1	...	0.6	22.6
9	1¼	Regina Hlth	3¼	-¼	...	...	...
584	360	Sainsbury J	408	-9	...	3.2	14.3
86	33	Sentry Farm	73	...	...	2.6	13.1
225	94	Sims Food	102	-2	...	8.0	19.3
439	355¼	Tate & Lyle	396	-4	...	4.1	10.5
273	176	Tesco	195	-3	...	4.7	8.9
211	123	Thorntons	166	...	...	2.7	...
183	107	Treats	144	...	...	3.2	16.4
410	300	Unigate	350	-2	...	5.9	11.5
437	326	Utd Biscuits	345	+6	...	5.5	21.3
24¼	18¼	Usborne	21	...	...	3.2	15.5
337	248	Watson & Phil	275	-1	13.2	6.0	14.3

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
26	12	Abrdn Stk Hse	26	...	...	...	...
93¼	77	City Centre Rest	83	...	1.5	2.4	20.0
252	170	Forte	246	+1	...	3.8	19.3
215	148	Friendly Hotels	152	...	...	4.7	29.6
11¼	5	Harmony Leis	9¼	-½	...	...	...
147	87	Jurys Hotel	147	...	...	4.3	11.9
222¼	142	Ladbroke	145¼	-2¼	11.1	9.6	12.4
85	59	Mandarin Ornt	78	...	...	4.3	19.3
52	44	Queens Moat	47¼	...	...	3.7	...
99	83	-do- 7¼% cvpr	93	...	7.5	11.0	...
2¼	¼	Regal Hotels	1¼	...	...	...	...
55	28	Resort Hotels	45	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
24	11¼	Ryan Hotels E	19¼	...	...	6.4	...
855	700	Savoy Hotel 'A'	800	...	7.0	1.1	...
66	34¼	Stakis	62	-1	...	0.9	...

INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
219	19	AAF Inds	39	-1	...	38.2	2.4
616	455	AAH	483	-8	...	4.5	16.1
185	123	AIM	158	...	7.5	6.8	8.4
132	88	APV	114	-2	...	5.9	...
238	81	ASW	159	...	...	4.7	...
186¼	118	Adwest	156	...	...	5.8	15.0
29	10	Aerospace Eng	21	...	...	4.5	22.6
281	249	Airsprung	274	...	...	3.1	17.5
189	113	Alexdra W	184	-1	4.1	2.9	29.1
15¼	6¼	Allied Radio	7	...	...	...	...
292¼	207¼	Alumasc	280	-3	...	2.6	16.5
48	17	Alvis	36	...	1.0	3.5	7.4
685	545	Amber Ind	665	...	...	3.5	15.7
56	45	Amberley Gp	47	-1	...	2.2	...
107	75	Anagen	81	...	...	...	...
145	75	Andrews Sykes	84	...	...	6.5	...
1005	703	Antofagasta	953	...	...	2.1	17.6
54¼	37	Armour	47	...	...	4.4	11.2
170	143	Ash & Lacy	158	...	6.4	5.1	16.2
4	2¼	Ass Br Eng	3	...	...	2.1	...
541¼	434	Avon Rubber	488	...	...	4.2	19.5
288	168	Assoc Nursg	287	...	...	0.5	16.3
687¼	503	Atlas Equip	503	...	...	5.5	12.6
81	35	Ayrshire Metal	68	...	...	...	...
190	147	BBA	180	+2	...	5.2	15.3
91	28	BLP Group	91	-3	...	...	...
77	13	BM Gp	20¼	-1	0.5	3.9	...
770	590	BOC	641	-7	...	4.5	15.1
79¼	50	BSG	60¼	...	...	6.6	21.0
495	355	BSS Group	495	+11	...	4.4	27.3
409¼	318	BTR	344	+6½	...	4.0	19.2
221	151	BWI	199	+1	...	5.3	14.7
50	25¼	Babcock	26¼	...	...	4.9	16.9
[illegible]	4¼	Bailey (CH)	7¼	...	...	...	...
289	240	Baird (Wm)	257	-2	8.9	4.3	17.8
1062¼	550	Barlow Rand	712¼	+3¼	...	4.7	∞
65	48	Baynes (Charles)	61	...	...	3.0	25.0
[illegible]	4	Beaufort	4¼	...	...	...	...
10	2	Beckenham	2¼	...	...	...	...
34	15	Bedford (W)	28	...	...	...	...
22¼	15	Benson Group	16¼	...	...	2.3	12.5
707	265	Bespak	310	-3	10.0	4.0	9.7
133	55	Bibby (J)	65	...	2.0	4.0	∞
312	129	Billam (J)	267	+3	5.3	2.5	13.5
41	21¼	Bilston Battsea	29	...	...	...	...
11¼	2	Birmec Ind	3¼	...	...	...	...
224	118¼	Birkby	224	+2	3.5	2.0	21.2
36	29	Black Arrow	29	...	2.1	9.1	9.1
1½	½	Black & Edgtn	1¼	-½	...	...	...
253	136	Black (Peter)	250	+1	3.7	1.9	22.0
990	129	Bluebird Toys	960	-28	...	1.0	17.1
322	230	Bodycote	266	...	...	1.4	17.0
40	23	Bogod 'A'	30	...	0.7	2.9	11.2
563	416	Boots	540	-5	...	3.2	21.3
61	42	Booth Inds	49	...	0.7	1.8	...
523	402	Bowater	438	-8	...	3.4	18.3
1682	1189	Bowater Inc	1394	+25	...	...	...
229	199	Boxmore Intl	250	-2	...	1.9	18.7
19	12¼	Braisway	15¼	...	...	4.1	...
303	304	Brammer	290	...	13.0	5.6	21.6
27	12	Bridgend Gp	20	...	0.4	...	...
125	64	Bridon	118	+2	...	4.2	...
88	53	Bridport-Gndry	71	...	2.5	4.4	∞
48	31	Brierley Inv	47	+1	...	7.2	11.4
308	190	Br Bldg & Eng	190	-10	8.0	5.3	∞
84	42	Br Bloodstock	83	...	...	...	...
528	415	Br Polythene	421	-3	...	3.0	15.1
131¼	54	Br Steel	128¼	+3	...	1.5	...
180	80	Br Syphon	85	...	...	4.4	23.8
185	115	Br Thornton	180	+10	...	1.7	19.7
268	215	Br Vita	245	...	7.3	3.7	15.1
15¼	5¼	Britton Grp	14	-½	...	1.6	...
805	555	Broken Hill	734	-1	...	2.4	34.6
112	78	Bromsgrve Ind	92	-½	...	6.0	12.0
10¼	6¼	Brooke Tool	9	...	...	...	...
73	40	Brown & Tawse	40	...	...	...	...
132	91	Bullough	132	...	6.0	5.7	22.6
24	11¼	Business Tech	15	-1	...	...	...
28	12	CI Group	14	...	0.5	5.1	13.4
42	11	Campbll & Arm	40	+1	...	...	...
39	6¼	Cannon St	32¼	-½	...	...	...
260	205	Cape	258	...	...	5.1	17.2
367	254	Caradon	365	...	...	3.0	29.5
177¼	128	-do- pf	176¼	+1	7.2	5.1	...
254	178	Carclo Eng	254	...	8.6	4.2	18.1
2588	2125	Carnaud Mtl	2138	...	...	2.9	∞
78	66	Cassidy Bros	78	...	...	3.8	12.8
213	158	Castings	210	...	4.6	2.8	14.7
71	53	Cathay Ind	64	+6	...	...	...
195	113	Chamberlin Hill	175	...	6.5	4.6	10.9
753	605	Charter	719	-12	...	3.9	10.9
346	220	Chemring	315	...	...	3.3	19.0
92	45	Chieftain Gp	50	...	4.5	11.3	10.7
45¼	15¼	Chillington	38	...	1.0	3.4	...
215	144	Christies Intl	212	...	...	0.9	52.6
66	34	Claybithe	65	...	...	4.8	...
95	55	Clayton Son	55	...	...	...	...
7	7	Co Designers	7	...	...	...	...
405	295	Cohen (A)	403	...	3.4	1.1	...
241	179	Community H	240	...	...	3.6	16.4
246	180¼	Concentric	206	...	5.8	3.6	∞
289	120	Cook (Wm)	255	-2	6.0	2.9	15.4
233	182	Cookson	210	+1	...	3.6	27.8
76	38	Copymore	71	...	...	1.8	21.7
236	130	Crowll Pkr 'A'	156	...	...	4.6	21.1
178	92	Cosalt	118	...	5.3	5.9	∞
224	190	Creighton Nt	213	+10	...	4.4	15.1
48	27	CrestaCare	38	-1	0.6	2.1	32.9
3956¼	2903¼	Dana	3612¼	-43¼	...	...	...
313	78¼	Danka Bs Sys	288	...	...	0.7	27.4
243	193	David Brown	223	...	...	3.4	15.8
22	5	Davies (DY)	18	...	...	...	...
830	632	De La Rue	814	+7	...	2.9	19.6
38	16	Dinkie Heel	37	...	1.1	3.7	29.5
574	391	Diploma	563	...	12.0	2.7	∞
89	50	Dobson Park	85	...	3.7	3.7	∞
119	92	Dyson (J&J)	111	...	5.0	5.6	20.4
83	57	-do- 'A'	74	...	5.0	8.4	13.6
16¼	8	EFG	14	...	...	...	...
440	367	EIS	401	...	...	3.8	15.9
28	19	Elbief	22	...	...	...	...
50	19	Eleco	48	...	...	...	0.00
2537¼	1750	Electrolux 'B'	2350	+59¼	...	2.2	...
73	43	Elliott (B)	67	...	...	...	...
475	394	Eng China Cl	423	-5	...	5.9	24.6
140	111	Environmed	133	-4	...	...	∞
3962¼	1590	Ericsson 'B'	2887¼	+12¼	...	1.0	...
77	32	Eurocopy	67	+9	1.7	3.2	∞
87	47	Expamet	64	...	...	4.7	15
717	499	Fairey Group	674	-1	10.7	2.0	20.8
121	47	Fenner	117	...	...	...	...
75	32	Ferraris Group	70	...	2.0	3.6	∞
3	½	Ferromet	2¼	...	...	...	...
29	13¼	Ferrum	13¼	-1½	1.4	13.0	9.4
66	28	File Indxsr	58	...	0.7	1.6	...
251	137	Fisons	142	+1	...	7.7	13.2
53	29	Fitzwilton	53	...	...	8.6	...
288	215	Flogas	253	...	...	3.9	11.6
43	33	Folkes Group nv	33	...	1.5	5.7	18.7
93	56	French (Thomas)	93	+3	3.6	4.9	46.6
234	162	Frost Group	214	...	...	2.6	27.7
88	70	GEI Intl	76	...	...	4.1	...
513	434	GKN	484	-3¼	...	5.3	32.3
51	42	GR Hldgs	46	...	...	4.9	...
101	79	Garton Eng	92	...	4.1	5.6	...
161	103	Gestetner	136	...	8.2	7.5	5.9
66	23	Gieves	48	...	...	...	34.7
801	509	Glaxo	683	-12	...	4.0	17.9
38¼	16	Glenchewton	37	-1	...	...	...
331	245	Glynwed	326	-1	11.6	4.5	30.7
128	66	Goode Durrant	128	...	...	...	...
180	102	Grampian Hd	145	+1	5.5	4.7	25.2
508	341	Granada	473	-12	...	2.3	19.3
455	301	Great Shtrn	451	...	...	3.1	18.7
117	73	Green (Ernest)	74	...	...	11.8	11.2
15¼	8¼	Greenacre	14	...	...	2.7	13.9
17	5	Guardian Grp	6¼	...	...	...	...
103	30¼	Haden MacLn	68	...	...	3.7	34.3
94	44	Hadleigh Inds	88	...	...	1.4	...
290	115	Hall Eng	274	...	8.6	3.9	22.9
229	161	Halma	213	-2	...	1.2	28.6
52	30	Hampson Ind	52	...	1.6	3.8	17.2
286¼	222	Hanson	260¼	-1¼	...	5.5	20.6
221	149	Harris (Philip)	149	...	...	5.8	8.9
199	147	Harrison Crsfld	195	+1	9.0	5.8	28.1
123	38	Havelock Euro	116	...	...	...	...
51	20	Hay (Norman)	38	+1	...	...	...
30	17	Headway	29	-1	...	3.0	...
17¼	4	Healthcare	4	...	...	25.0	1.1
418	301	Hepworth	402	-2	14.8	4.6	17.3
228	160	Hewitt (J)	205	...	3.2	2.0	16.0
57¼	15	High-Polar	54	...	0.5	1.2	...
167	112¼	Hill & Smith	166	...	...	4.2	23.1
19¼	6¼	Hobson	17	...	...	...	...
176	87	Holders Tech	172	...	...	4.4	22.4
52	30	Hopkinsons	45	...	0.9	2.5	34.0
188	133	Hornby	187	...	...	6.0	17.7
88	54¼	Howden	78	...	2.2	3.5	14.4
260	173	Hunting	219	-2	...	5.7	18.5
503	269¼	Hunslgh Tec	468	...	...	2.7	11.9
312	247	IMI	297	-1	...	4.2	26.3
119	90	ISA Intl	114	+1	1.5	1.7	17.7
205	131	Intercare Gp	136	...	...	2.5	14.4
286	235	Isotron	280	...	4.3	1.9	16.3
665	360	Jardine Math	607	-5	...	2.1	22.0
537	425	Johnson Matth	491	-3	...	2.7	19.0
64	36¼	Johnson & FB	39	...	3.0	9.6	12.0
177	104	Johnston	165	-2	3.2	...	...
32	19	Jones Shipman	25	...	...	...	...
35	18	Jourdan (T)	30	...	0.7	3.1	...
178	73	Kalon	160	+1	...	2.7	22.2
297	195	Kelsey Ind	250	...	8.0	4.0	...
685	485	Kershaw (A)	685	...	27.0	4.9	35.5
255	75	Kleeneze	243	-1	...	...	...
151	61	LOW	142	-1	3.4	3.1	11.8
351	266	Laird	325	+4	...	4.0	16.0
157¼	103	Lilleshall	148	-2	...	3.7	19.5
223	97	Lincat	204	...	...	3.7	14.4
33¼	4¼	Lincoln Hse	31¼	...	...	...	25.9
128	76	Linread	95	+2	3.8	5.0	14.7
305	170	Linton Park	305	...	...	5.7	11.0
15¼	9¼	Lionheart	11¼	...	0.2	2.2	...
22¼	15	Locker (T) A	17	...	0.8	6.3	24.7
274	131	Lon Intl	145	-1	9.4	8.1	11.1
144	70	Lonrho	133¼	+2	...	3.7	...
388	269	Low & Bonar	336	...	...	3.5	47.1
41	14¼	MI Hldgs	39	...	...	...	...
56	27	MS Intl	52	...	...	6.0	53.6
59	39	MY Holdings	50	...	...	3.2	∞
216	168	Macfarlane	214	+1	...	2.0	24.2
460	379	McKechnie	445	...	14.7	4.1	∞
123	85	McLeod Russel	117	...	6.1	6.5	∞
8¼	1¼	Maddox	1¼	...	...	...	8.2
106	63	Magnolia	100	...	0.1	0.1	16.1
122	71	Mang Bronze	122	...	2.5	2.6	∞
28¼	19¼	Marling	23	...	...	4.7	...
210	134	Mayborne	210	...	...	3.1	16.1
62	29	Mayflower	53	-1	...	1.1	44.3
236	85	Medeva	132	-7	...	2.3	10.7
118	88	Meggitt	93¼	...	...	5.1	15.9
125	98	Metalrax	114	+1	...	4.1	18.6
154	126	Metrotect	132	...	...	3.1	18.2
90	70	Metsec	96	-1	...	...	...
98	29	Midstates	88	...	...	1.1	12.2
28	14	Mining & Ald	27¼	...	0.5	2.3	...
525	368	Molins	525	+10	...	3.4	12.6
345	262	Morgan Cble	335	-1	...	4.7	17.6
184	134	Morris Ashby	178	+3	...	4.0	13.3
38	18	Neepsend	34	...	1.0	3.7	45.6
73	34	Nestor-BNA	60	-2	3.1	6.6	14.3
199	122	Nobo Gp	197	...	4.8	3.0	19.4
182	122¼	Norcros	174	-½	...	5.1	24.9
51	35	Novo Group	38	...	...	4.3	12.2
413	310	Nu-Swift	343	...	...	...	∞
81	36	Office Elec Mac	58	...	...	...	...
56	21	OMI Intl	49	-7	...	4.5	...
162	123	PCT	161	...	...	5.6	18.3
90	36	Pacer Systems	85	+2	...	5.1	...
138	87¼	Pentland	100	+1	...	3.3	13.6
395	290	Photo-Me	320	-5	4.6	1.8	20.7
167	97¼	Pilkington	157	-2	...	3.2	...
92	68	Plantsbrook	92	...	3.1	4.2	14.5
154	125	Polypipe	135¼	...	2.1	1.9	18.3
42	15	Porter Chadbrn	16	...	...	3.1	7.3
14¼	5¼	Porth Gp	11¼	...	...	...	...
376	285	Powerscreen	304	...	...	2.8	15.8
21¼	16¼	Prospect Inds	21¼	...	0.7	4.4	10.6
65	33¼	RPS Group	55	...	2.3	5.2	12.2
95	73	Radiant Metal	85	...	...	...	...
186	77	Ramco Oil	179	+1½	...	0.7	59.9
913	636	Rank Org	904	-1	31.0	4.3	24.7
33	15	Ransomes	15	...	...	...	...
690	532	Reckitt Colm	647	-10	...	3.2	14.9
77	50	Record	70	...	3.6	6.4	34.4
7¼	2¼	Reece	4¼	...	...	...	...
269	131	Relyon	264	...	5.0	2.4	31.7
303	208	Renishaw	295	...	...	2.8	35.1
122	55	Renold	117	-1	...	1.8	...
1753	1240	Reuters	1742	-10	22.1	1.6	28.8
83	24¼	Rexmore	78	...	2.0	3.3	...
188	91	Ricardo Group	175	-1	...	4.1	24.8
76	58	Richard (Leics)	73	...	3.7	6.4	...
98	63	Richardson West	82	-1	3.0	4.6	21.0
142	109	Ropner	122	...	8.2	8.5	17.3
136	97	-do- 'A'	118	...	8.2	8.7	16.7
38	14	Ross Gp	18	+1	0.6	4.5	7.4
184	131¼	Rotork	172	+2	...	2.7	20.1
167	89	Rubicon	165	...	...	3.3	23.2
66	43	Russell (A)	62	...	...	1.0	...
34	15	SEP Indl	31	...	0.8	3.3	∞
1087¼	625	SKF 'B'	987¼	...	...	...	...
60¼	39	Saville Grdn (J)	59	...	...	4.7	29.4
248	205	Scapa	215¼	-½	...	3.3	15.9
238	188	Scholl	188	-1	...	4.2	13.7
6¼	4	Scot Heritable	5	...	...	...	...
323	277	Scotia	287	...	...	...	...
1123	917	Securicor	1115	+5	2.6	0.3	42.4
850	562	-do- 'A'	850	+1	2.6	0.4	32.3
746	465	Security Serv	740	+1	5.1	0.9	36.6
126¼	77	Senior Eng	118¼	-1	...	3.4	19.8
361	278	Seton Health	322	...	...	2.3	19.0
68	42	Sheldon Jones	48	...	...	...	...
166	86	Shiloh	136	...	3.0	2.8	14.7
344	281	Sidlaw	284	...	10.5	4.6	∞
587	427	Siebe	566	-30	...	2.3	19.8
383	220	Silentnight	351	...	...	2.8	19.0
149	102	Sime Darby	149	...	...	3.6	∞
142	32	Simon Eng	94¼	...	...	...	...
259	180	Sinclair (Wm)	187	+1	...	4.7	14.6
47	35	Six Hundred	36	...	...	5.2	...
164	134	Smith & Neph	147¼	-½	...	4.0	16.4
513	383	Smithkline	393	-3	9.6	3.1	14.2
450	340	Smthkline Uts	358	-3	...	3.4	12.1
443	320	Smiths Ind	436	-5	...	3.4	17.5
140	58	Slim Bus	74	...	3.5	5.9	7.0
466	265	Spandex	466	...	...	1.8	20.7
660	300	Spear (JW)	510	...	4.5	1.1	9.5
376	314	Spirax-Sarco	342	...	...	3.4	21.5
145	44	Spring Ram	54¼	-½	...	0.6	18.1
270	201	[illegible]	209	...	...	5.1	11.8
199	126	Sterling Ind	185	...	...	4.0	18.7
187	97	Suter	187	...	9.0	6.7	17.5
487	244	Swire Pacfc 'A'	485	+11	...	1.8	∞
7	2¼	Sycamore	3	...	...	...	...
78	53	Sykes-Pick	53	...	...	7.3	10.1
153	120	Sylvone	153	...	...	3.9	20.3
386	279	TI	369	-9	...	3.7	28.2
32	12	TLS Range	26	...	...	1.2	...
337	211	TT Group	323	+1	...	2.6	19.9
237	201	Takare	228	...	...	1.0	19.9
868	618	Takeda Chem	720	+10	...	0.9	13.6
88	24	Tex Hldgs	61	...	...	...	...
109	70	Tinsley (E)	97	...	...	7.0	14.9
240	150	Txone	230	...	...	2.0	20.0
271	212¼	Tomkins	227¼	...	...	3.5	16.8
112	67	Trafalgar H	95¼	-½	...	4.2	7.0
116	69	Transfer Tech	75	-2	3.2	5.4	9.3
190	142	Triplex Lloyd	143	...	...	6.1	17.2
275	214	UniChem	272	+1	6.4	2.9	17.8
375	275¼	Unidare	365	...	...	5.4	18.3
76	11¼	Unigroup	39	+1	...	...	...
1249	938	Unilever	1166	-6	22.2	2.4	15.9
8112¼	6362¼	Unilever (NV)	7675	...	...	2.7	12.6
915	513	VSEL	804	...	...	4.7	8.7
12¼	6¼	Verson	12	...	...	...	...
164	95¼	Vickers	151	...	...	1.9	...
367	243	Victaulic	263	+1	...	3.7	13.0
454	283	Vinten	440	+1	...	2.8	20.5
694	427	Vosper Thorny	651	+1	...	3.2	15.8
48	41	WSP Hldgs	41	+1	...	8.2	10.7
468	368	Wagon Ind	450	+1	...	4.9	19.6
98	71	Walker Greenbk	94	...	3.1	4.1	24.0
258	201	Wassall	252	-2	2.7	1.4	25.4
45	22	Wtrford Wdgwd	44	-1	...	...	...
384	252	Weir	285	...	...	3.7	16.1
993	600	Wellcome	666	-22	...	3.2	14.1
23¼	16	Wellman	18	+1½	0.9	6.4	26.9
358	260	West Hlthcare	335	-2	...	1.4	21.5
510	460	Whatman	480	...	9.7	2.5	16.3
353	224	Whessoe	349	...	...	4.1	9.7
77	27	Whitecroft	77	...	...	...	...
10¼	4¼	Widney	10	...	...	...	...
130	44	Wilkes (James)	120	...	3.5	...	35.1
365	295¼	Williams Hldg	346	+6	12.5	4.5	18.1
46¼	17	Wilshaw	41¼	-1½	...	1.7	26.1
794	531	Wolseley	790	-1	...	2.1	23.3
155	125	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	1.5	1.2	56.5
46	35	Wyko	40	...	...	3.1	...
59	38	Young (H)	53	...	3.3	8.0	∞

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1993¼	1193¼	Alex & Alex	1225	...	...	5.4	...
2406¼	1787¼	Am Gen	1956¼	-6½	...	3.7	...
63	30	Archer (AJ)	61	+1	2.7	5.5	29.7
183	133	Berry Bch Nbl	162	...	...	4.2	12.5
148	118	Bradstock	136	...	5.2	4.8	16.8
498	359¼	Britannic	449	...	...	3.2	...
667	556	Com Union	615	-2	...	4.9	...
1750	1225	Dom & Gen	1748	...	...	1.6	23.1
50	18	FAI	46	+1	...	...	...
741	546	Gen Accident	675	+3	26.7	5.0	...
230	160	GRE	202	+2	7.1	4.4	16.8
412	293	Heath C E	387	-2	...	5.2	...
228	155	Hogg Gp	157	-1	8.1	6.5	14.2
215	162	JIB Group	172	-1	...	5.5	17.6
546	408¼	Legal & Gen	518	-1	...	4.7	31.5
1129	768	Liberty Life	1068	+24	...	9.9	20.8
468	403	Lloyds Abbey	433	+2	17.3	5.0	15.6
338	253	Lloyd Thomp	280	...	6.7	3.0	17.4
395	274	Londn & Man	379	-1	14.7	4.9	27.9
443	321	Lowndes Lmb	432	+1	14.0	4.1	15.3
6743¼	5293¼	Marsh McLn	5350¼	+6½	...	3.4	...
130	76	Oriel	134	...	...	5.0	...
72	50¼	PWS	65	...	4.0	7.7	9.4
376	282¼	Prudential	357	+3	...	4.3	23.7
1138	800	Refuge	1010	...	32.2	4.0	28.0
347	248	Royal	301	-4	...	2.7	...
204	150	Sedgwick	182	-1	...	4.1	22.4
261	119	Steel Burrill	141	-3	...	10.6	8.3
95	48	Sturge Hldgs	62	-1	3.0	6.3	∞
400	307	Sun Alliance	369	-3	14.2	4.8	...
88	50	Trade Indemnty	86	-1	...	...	...
332	239	Transatlantic	321	...	12.0	4.7	29.8
773	499	Utd Friendly	610	-5	15.1	3.1	26.6
243	171	Willis Corroon	216	...	...	3.8	46.4
21	13¼	Windsor	20	...	...	...	15.7

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1846	1548	Alliance	1821	-9	45.5	3.1	39.8
283¼	226¼	Amer Trust	275	...	5.2	2.4	57.1
426	304	Ang & O'seas	414	-2	6.8	2.1	52.6
156	124	BZW Conv	155	...	7.8	6.4	18.0
195	133¼	Bankers	193¼	+½	3.6	2.4	53.2
336	264	Baring Tribne	336	...	6.4	2.4	53.1
203	131	Berry Starq	203	...	2.2	1.4	66.0
110¼	96¼	Br Assets	107	-½	...	5.0	25.5
87	57¼	Br Empire Sec	84¼	-1	0.9	1.4	∞
31	14	-do- Wnts	31	...	...	...	...
208	156	Br Inv	207	...	4.6	2.8	46.7
197	130	Cond Asset	192	...	2.4	1.6	63.9
195	143	Derby Inc	153	...	...	11.6	9.2
290	195	-do- Cap	290	...	...	...	...
88	62	Drayton Blue	88	...	8.4	12.3	9.4
85	35	-do- Eng Intl	80	...	1.0	1.6	...
135	84	-do- Far East	124	-1	0.6	0.6	...
137	95	-do- Korea	137	...	0.5	0.5	...
698	576	Dunedn Inc G	697	...	...	4.6	32.1
100	76	-do- Japan	82	+½	...	...	...
55	34	-do- Warrants	41	...	...	...	...
729	513	-do- Wwde	714	+1	9.5	1.7	∞
292	222	Dundee & Lon	289	...	9.0	4.0	∞
313	250¼	Edinburgh	309	-2	8.5	3.4	33.8
291	183	Electra Inv	283	-3	6.8	3.0	38.6
191	141	Electric Gen	187	-1	3.1	2.1	58.3
114	85	English Scot	113	-½	...	...	...
316	205	European Asset	316	+1	...	2.3	41.0
133	77	Finsbury 'A'	129	...	3.0	2.9	41.5
307	248	Fleming Amer	305	...	0.8	0.3	...
225	190¼	-do- Claver	224¼	...	...	3.0	44.2
340	212	-do- Cont	323	+1	2.7	1.0	...
211	147	-do- Entp	209	-1	...	2.8	42.2
364	213	-do- F East	363	+2	1.1	0.4	...
339	246	-do- Fledg	339	-1	3.0	1.1	...
118	93	-do- Hi Inc	110	+1	...	5.0	18.8
260	136	-do- Japan	207	-2	...	0.3	...
294	250	-do- Merc	292	-2	6.7	2.9	62.1
307	212	-do- Oseas	295	-4	4.2	1.8	61.8
274	203	Foreign & Col	273	+1	...	1.6	74.3
121	59¼	-do- Emg Mkts	116	...	0.2	0.3	∞
67	44	-do- Enterprise	67	...	0.4	0.8	...
233	161	-do- Eurotst	222	...	...	0.7	...
131	87	-do- German	122	...	0.5	0.5	...
319	191	-do- Pacific	305	+2	...	0.9	...
168¼	116	-do- Smaller	166	...	1.8	1.4	...
272	145	GT Japan	237	...	...	0.7	...
173	65	Genl Cons Cap	173	+1	...	...	...
123¼	96¼	-do- Inc	111	...	...	9.5	11.5
167	115	Govett Am Smlr	166	...	...	...	...
122	94	-do- Emg Mkts	122	+3	...	...	...
356	184	-do- Oriental	352	...	0.9	0.3	...
286	207	-do- Strategy	273	...	...	3.1	38.1
414	340	Greenfriar	413	...	...	1.9	62.0
19	5	Gresham House	19	...	...	...	...
149	124	Inv Cap	147	-1	...	4.4	28.2
97	77	IRS UK Smlr	96	...	2.8	3.6	26.8
212	156¼	Kleinwort Chrt	211	-1	5.0	3.0	41.1
290	176	-do- O'seas	236	-4	3.3	1.7	67.1
142	108	-do- Smlr	138	-1	...	3.2	33.5
715	540	Law Debenture	711	+1	18.5	3.2	35.6
205	164	Majedie	205	...	...	3.0	38.3
286	221	Merchants	285	...	...	4.8	26.5
3343¼	1850	Merrill Lynch	3200	-87½	...	...	...
521	393	Monks Inv Tst	510	-1	...	1.6	65.5
142	108	Morg Gren Inc	142	...	4.5	4.0	∞
54	23	Do Warrants	52	...	...	...	...
60	39	Murray Euro	56	...	0.1	0.4	...
23¼	4¼	Do Wts	19	...	...	...	...
371	262	Murray Income	370	+1	10.9	3.7	35.3
368	265	-do- Intl	363¼	-½	11.6	4.0	32.8
457	263	-do- Small	436	...	...	1.2	...
103	88	-do- S/C Inc	88	...	...	15.1	∞
135	73	-do- S/C Cap	126	...	...	...	...
3150	2750	-do- S/C Uts	3150	...	...	4.2	∞
159	147¼	-do- S/C DP	159	-½	...	...	...
315	230	-do- Vent	309	+1	...	4.4	25.0
93	68	Nthrnq Inc	91	...	6.7	9.4	16.8
346	249	O'seas Inv Tst	335	...	...	1.2	...
498	285	Pacific Assets	498	+12	1.1	0.3	...
403	187	Do Warrants	403	+16	...	...	...
8300	7650	Personal Assets	8300	+50	190	2.9	49.0
170	100	RIT Cap Ptnr	167	...	1.1	0.9	...
127	108	River & Merc	121	-1	9.2	9.5	12.1
465	350	Robeco	413	...	...	3.1	...
435	346	Rolinco	418	...	...	1.9	...
287	214	St Andrew Inv	286	...	7.5	3.3	38.5
160¼	151	Scot American	159	-½	...	3.6	33.6
287	156	Scot Asian	287	+8	...	...	...
785	225	do Warrants	765	+20	...	...	...
83¼	63¼	-do- Eastern	82¼	-½	1.5	2.3	54.0
231	183	Scottish	226	-1	4.9	2.7	∞
235¼	178	-do- Mtge	225	+1	4.0	2.2	58.4
104	71	-do- Value	103¼	+½	1.8	2.2	∞
1648	1390	Second Alnce	1627	-1	...	3.0	40.9
94	74¼	Secs Tst of Scot	93¼	+½	3.2	4.3	30.9
163	109¼	Selective Asset	160	-1	1.2	0.9	57.5
38	14	Sphere Inv	37¼	...	3.1	10.3	12.1
176	112	TR Far East	174	...	...	3.6	33.1
159¼	126	TR City Of Lon	159	...	...	3.8	34.6
199	130	TR Pacific	199	+2	0.3	0.2	...
37	17	TR Property	36¼	...	0.9	3.1	38.6
121	47	TR Tech Inv	121	+2	1.7	1.9	44.9
199	146	TR Smlr Cos	192	-1½	...	2.5	44.4
364	283	Temple Bar	364	+1	13.2	4.6	27.4
113	69	Thrmtn Asian E	113	+2	0.5	0.6	...
79	54	Throgmorton	75	...	2.3	3.8	20.6
550	363	Throg Dual Cp	505	...	...	...	...
242	178	USDC Invest	234	...	4.5	2.4	43.0
118¼	76¼	Value Inc Tst	118	...	4.0	4.2	20.7
895	542	Whitbread Inv	895	...	16.5	2.3	53.9
226	181	Witan	224¼	...	5.6	3.1	39.3

LEISURE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
482	289	Airtours	463	-6	...	2.5	14.5
64	42	Ald Leis	43	-3	...	8.7	14.0
465	194	Anglia TV	432	-2	...	2.7	19.5
103	63	Baldwin	86	...	4.6	6.7	11.7
264	192	Barr & W 'A'	252	...	10.0	5.0	16.3
1245	930	Boosey Hwks	1155	...	22.0	2.4	17.3
158	90	Border TV	150	+12	...	3.0	13.4
16¼	4	Brent Walker	5¼	+½	...	...	...
150	48	Bristol Scots	133	...	...	...	...
9	2¼	Buckingham Int	5¼	...	...	...	...
292	70	Campari	72	...	8.7	15.2	...
238	171	Capital Radio	236	+4	5.7	3.0	∞
857	718	Carlton Comm	854	+7	...	2.8	20.1
241	158	Castle Comm	241	+5	...	4.4	16.0
2678	1615	Central TV	2673	+8	39.0	1.8	29.1
124	61	Chrysalis	103	...	...	...	...
595	470	Compass Gp	595	+3	...	2.7	17.8
350	175	Eurocamp	216	...	9.7	5.6	8.9
1180	268	Euro Disney	420	-5	...	2.8	...
8	2	Euro Leisure	2	...	...	...	...
38¼	18	Ex-Lands	34	...	...	1.3	...
390	245	Fairline Boats	285	-1	10.5	4.6	...
376	232	First Leisure	274	...	6.2	2.9	19.0
990	298	GWR Gp	990	...	...	1.7	30.3
246	149	Grampian	230	...	6.5	3.5	15.9
22	4¼	Greenwich Comm	16	...	...	...	...
100	19	HTV Group	96	+1	...	...	42.6
76	30	Hi-Tec Sports	57	...	...	4.9	...
12¼	5¼	Kunick	10	...	...	...	...
603	405	LWT Hldgs	576	-8	...	1.1	26.7
600	327	Man Utd	533	-4	...	4.6	21.5
48	7¼	Northern	39	...	...	...	...
148	59	Owners Abrd	81	...	3.9	6.0	6.5
77	33	The Pelican Gp	69	...	...	2.0	16.2
170	55	Prism Leisure	170	...	...	2.4	15.9
42	16	Quadrant Grp	37	-1	...	...	...
350	274	Radio Clyde	350	...	...	3.0	27.4
208	132	Ramsdens (H)	207	-1	...	2.7	27.5
553	430	Scot TV	477	-5	10.3	2.7	23.5
65	37	Southern Radio	58	...	0.7	1.7	34.2
263	168	Stanley Leisure	263	...	4.3	2.1	20.8
10	5¼	Sunleigh	8	...	...	...	...
145	115	Sunset & Vine	129	...	3.5	3.4	19.7
420	345¼	Tanjong	345¼	...	...	0.5	18.9
3¼	1	Ticketing	2¼	...	...	...	...
117	84	Tottenhm Hot	105	...	...	2.4	5.5
78	44	Trans World	67	...	...	1.5	34.4
510	274	Ulster TV	499	...	12.0	3.0	15.3
109	62	Vardon	106	...	0.8	0.9	25.0
22	11	Wembley	16¼	...	...	...	...
234	110	Yorkshire TV	177	-1	12.0	8.5	5.4
120	83	Zetters Gp	116	...	8.0	8.6	13.1

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
5900	1800	Am Gold	5600	+150	...	3.9	28.4
1625	1018¼	Ang Am Coal	1518¼	-6¼	...	5.9	8.0
2575	1125	Ang Am	2575	+100	...	2.6	22.7
33	8¼	Anglo Pac Res	26	+½	...	...	...
193	33	Blyvoors	179	...	...	...	...
46	18	Bracken	35	...	...	...	...
871	233	Buffels	753	-6	...	8.4	6.8
2¼	1	Bute	2	...	...	...	...
772	546	CRA	772	+6	...	2.6	26.6
43¼	11	Cluff Res	32	-½	...	...	...
1406¼	762¼	De Beers	1368¼	+43¼	...	3.5	18.8
165	37¼	Deelkraal	131	...	...	2.2	15.1
96	7	Doornfontein	63	...	...	...	...
913	388	Driefontein	791	+3	...	4.1	15.6
788	120	Durban	687	+3	...	...	...
201	47	E Rand Gold	135	...	...	7.9	4.2
175	35	E Rand Prop	75	...	...	...	...
65	16	Eastern Trans	50	...	...	5.0	10.7
604	117	Elandsrand	380	+1	...	3.1	9.3
1042	292	FS Cons	958	+3	...	5.0	12.6
80	8	FS Dev	53	...	...	...	...
1675	725	GFSA	1450	-25	...	2.7	25.1
110	62¼	Gencor	103	-4	...	8.5	11.7
64¼	35¼	GM Kalgoorli	52	...	...	2.5	21.4
22¼	5	Greenwich R 'A'	15	...	...	...	...
187	49	Grootvlei	147	...	...	6.8	9.2
360	78	Harmony	316	-2	...	...	...
425	87	Harties	391	-2	...	7.0	15.5
16¼	8¼	Inoco	15¼	...	...	...	...
1010	491	Impala Plat	801	-17	...	3.5	27.6
13¼	6	Kenmare Res	9	...	...	...	...
1092	332	Kinross	1054	-6	...	5.4	∞
913	319	Kloof	657	-3	...	3.6	9.3
137	25	Leslie	112	+3	...	9.3	∞
314	13	Loraine	308	+1	...	...	...
950	620	Lydenburg	950	...	...	2.1	∞
116¼	80	MIM	106¼	+1¼	...	2.1	51.8
1322	820	Minorco	1251	-15	...	3.1	14.8
154¼	91	Nth Brkn Hill	152	-½	...	3.2	25.0
2712¼	612¼	Orange Free	2475	-9¼	...	0.7	19.9
748	607	RTZ	734	+12	...	3.3	20.7
156¼	106¼	Rand Mines	156¼	...	...	7.0	∞
671	150	Randfontein	577	-15	...	4.9	9.6
192	115	Rennison	191	+1	...	2.3	19.8
1200	850	Rustnbrg	1050	+25	...	3.1	∞
725	191	St Helena	619	-3	...	3.9	13.2
2168	475	Southvaal	1866	+6	...	3.0	34.1
119	18	Stilfontein	75	-4	...	8.3	13.6
201	58	Unisel	146	+1	...	4.5	∞
6300	1800	Vaal Reefs	5950	+62¼	...	3.6	10.8
703	154	Welkom	623	-7	...	6.8	19.5
640	26	Western Areas	606	-1	...	0.8	19.4
3000	587¼	Western Deep	2750	...	...	2.2	13.4
283	176	Wstrn Mining	277	-10	...	1.7	...
1035	323	Winkels	963	+4	...	3.8	∞
84	49	Zambia Copper	51	...	...	...	...
68	18	Zandpan	61	...	...	7.2	20.3

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
258	233	Abbey Panels	248	...	3.0	3.3	11.1
135	95	Airflow Stream	115	...	...	5.4	...
153	78	Appleyard	121	...	...	3.8	15.4
335	203	Blatchley Mtr	303	...	6.0	4.3	31.8
192	120	Bostrom	180	-6	7.3	2.2	...
468	165	Br Aerospace	409	...	...	...	...
56	19¼	Burndene	53	...	...	3.7	14.1
388	303	Callyns	398	+10	11.5	3.7	78.5
15	4¼	Caverdale	13	-½	...	...	...
143	98	Central Mtr	125	...	...	4.0	31.8
36	18	Cook (DC)	32	+1	...	3.5	18.0
267	156	Cowie (T)	247	-1	6.6	3.3	18.8
141	86	Dag Motors	136	...	5.7	5.3	24.6
155	102¼	Davnport Vern	144	...	...	3.5	18.2
330	155	ERF	323	...	2.0	0.8	...
145	92	European Mtr	137	...	...	3.4	19.3
406	208	Evans Halshaw	403	...	11.4	3.6	62.1
290	211	FR Group	245	+8	...	3.7	11.4
4306¼	2843¼	Ford Motor	4187¼	-37¼	...	...	...
3706¼	2143¼	General Mtr	3650	-31¼	...	1.5	...
75	38	Gowrings	56	...	2.0	4.5	...
256	85	Henlys	255	...	3.5	1.7	...
1056	769	Honda Motor	845	...	...	1.0	...
35	15	Jacks (Wm)	35	...	...	...	...
108	66	Jessups	87	...	4.5	6.5	...
176	97	Kwik-Fit	154¼	-1½	...	2.6	21.8
432	281	Lex Service	432	+1	...	3.3	23.6
164	86	Lookers	149	...	6.2	5.2	...
181	126	Lucas	179	+1	...	4.9	...
27¼	21	Malaya Grp	25¼	...	...	...	...
284	224¼	Pendragon	250	...	...	3.2	20.5
190	101¼	Perry Gp	157	...	...	5.7	...
190	108	Quicks Group	163	-1	...	3.6	30.8
177	96¼	Rolls-Royce	167¼	-3½	...	3.7	...
223	164	T & N	187	+½	...	7.3	26.6
256	163	Trinity Hldgs	243	...	...	2.9	22.5
175	125	Vardy (Reg)	163	-3	...	3.2	22.8
253	121	Westland	251	+1	4.5	2.3	∞

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
198	103	Adscene	198	...	5.0	3.2	20.3
360	315	Black (A&C)	335	...	13.5	5.0	13.7
608	[illegible]	Blenheim Gp	330	...	...	3.6	12.3
370	275	Bristol	365	...	...	4.2	32.6
£1106¼	7775	Daily Mail	£1105¼	...	13.4	1.6	23.8
£1106	7700	Daily Mail 'A'	£1105¼	...	13.4	1.6	23.8
355	251	Dorling Kind	313	-2	...	1.3	28.3
5687¼	4337¼	Elsevier	5675	-9¼	...	1.7	19.2
402	322	EMAP	398	-1	...	2.5	24.5
1525	873	Euromoney Pb	1525	...	38.0	3.2	∞
264	170	Harrington K	190	+1	4.7	3.1	15.5
320	155¼	Haynes Pub	319	...	...	2.1	18.0
363	334	Hodder H'line	345	...	5.1	1.9	29.3
140	99	Home Counts	111	...	5.2	5.0	...
153	30	Intl Bus Comm	152	...	...	...	22.0
14	6¼	Ins Cm & Data	12	-1	...	...	...
635	340	Independent	395	...	...	3.2	21.3
580	395	Johnston Press	530	...	6.5	1.5	23.3
333	243	Metal Bulletn	333	...	8.2	3.1	23.5
186	88	Mirror Gp	161	-3	...	...	...
515	297	News Corp	439	-2	...	0.3	...
301	169	News Intl	264	...	...	0.6	16.2
603	342	Pearson	575	-11	...	2.6	31.2
675	510	Portsmth Sund	640	...	...	1.8	17.7
806	618	Reed Intl	805	...	...	2.7	35.1
181	98	Southnews	161	+1	...	1.6	33.5
171	90	Sterling Pub	164	...	...	2.3	18.1
423	328	Telegraph	406	...	...	3.7	17.1
835	715	Thomson Corp	795	...	30.1	4.7	39.7
415	313	Trinity Intl	415	+11	9.0	2.7	24.9
39	27	Unit Group	27	...	...	...	...
597¼	490¼	Utd Nwspapers	573	-5	...	4.7	15.9

OILS, GAS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
37	17	Aran Energy	23	-½	...	...	22.4
61	34	Arcon Intl	36	...	...	...	...
71	41¼	Ass Oil & Gas	59	-1½	...	...	...
83	26	Aviva Pet	67	+6	...	...	...
16	5	Beverley	5¼	...	...	...	54.7
223	145	Br Borneo	196	-2	7.1	4.5	5.9
356	276	British Gas	353	+3¼	14.2	5.0	17.1
362¼	225	Br Petroleum	330	+2¼	8.4	3.2	25.9
1¼	1	Bula Resources	1¼	+¼	...	...	...
821	675	Burmah Castrl	794	+9	...	5.2	18.5
68	32	Cairn Energy	61	...	...	...	8.7
317	223	Caltex Gp	311	...	...	4.8	17.0
60¼	32¼	Clyde Pet	45	...	...	...	...
44	27	Conlex Res	38	-½	...	...	...
23¼	10¼	Edin Oil & Gas	17	...	...	...	...
521	397	Enterprise	433	-4	19.0	5.5	23.8
88	32	Exp Co Louis	32	-2	...	...	...
34¼	18¼	Fairhaven Intl	27¼	...	...	4.8	8.1
10¼	4	Fortune	4	...	...	...	...
67	45	Goal Pet	54	-1	1.4	3.2	10.3
48	18	Gt Western Res	38	...	...	...	...
181	104¼	Hardy O & G	144	-1	...	0.9	13.4
46	18¼	Kelt Energy	40	...	...	...	...
195	109	LASMO	117	+1	...	3.5	23.7
103	63	-do- Units	70	...	9.4	10.9	...
24	3¼	Mid Scot Res	4	...	...	...	...
56¼	34	Monument	55¼	...	...	...	...
9¼	4	New London	4¼	...	...	...	...
33	21	Nth Sea Assets	29	...	1.0	4.3	10.0
40	27	Oil Search	39	-1	...	...	...
19¼	11¼	Petrol	17	-½	...	...	...
162	99	Pict Pet	156	...	...	...	...
29¼	18	Premier	23¼	...	...	...	9.6
168	50	Presidio	158	...	...	4.2	...
410	290	Ranger	395	...	...	4.6	...
7312¼	5150	Royal Dtch Fl	6975	-37½	...	4.4	17.3
4500	3600	Schlumberger	3975	+12½	...	2.1	...
87	47	Seafield	58	-1	...	...	...
737	515	Shell	705	+3	22.8	4.0	21.7
203	173	Sunrise Eng Sv	185	...	...	...	...
41	15	Triton Europe	19	+1	...	...	...
15¼	6	Villiers Crp	14	...	...	...	...
208	135	Woodside	182	...	...	1.9	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
152	120	AG Holdings	152	+6	...	4.4	13.6
358	249	API	358	...	8.2	2.9	∞
259	144	Arjo Wiggins	243	-4	...	3.3	39.3
543	408	Abbott Mead	537	...	9.5	2.2	28.2
40	13	Aegis Gp	18	...	...	...	...
212	118	Aspen Comm	130	...	...	4.7	11.8
20	7	BBB Design	15	...	...	...	...
427	234¼	Bemrose	427	+42	...	3.6	18.7
30¼	7	Birkdale	8¼	...	...	...	...
155	118	Bunzl	134	-2	4.0	3.7	20.2
352	257	CIA Gp	348	...	...	1.6	22.0
230	93	Capital Inds	135	...	...	3.3	12.9
92	44	City of Lon	88	-1	...	5.5	16.0
304	169	Cropper (James)	304	...	3.2	1.5	29.4
6	6	Crown Comm	6	...	...	...	...
95	51	Delyn Group	68	...	1.6	2.4	11.8
120	94	Dolphin Pack	105	...	4.5	5.4	25.9
87	42	Dudley Jenkins	78	...	...	5.0	17.7
19¼	10¼	Elswick	14	...	...	2.7	15.7
74	41	Fairway Group	72	...	3.2	5.6	21.2
349	271	Ferguson Intl	349	...	...	4.5	15.8
128	92	Ferry Pick	127	-1	...	5.5	34.3
166	74	Filofax	167	...	...	1.1	21.5
20	10¼	Fitch	11	...	...	...	...
154	68	Gibbon Lyons	154	...	...	4.5	16.3
295	205	Gold Greenless	205	...	8.3	5.1	14.6
41	17	Goodhead	21	...	0.0	0.3	∞
88	35	Hunterprint	36	...	...	...	...
185	136	Interevrope	162	...	...	6.0	11.9
279	191	Jarvis Porter	272	...	...	2.2	25.4
32	15¼	Lopex	25	...	...	...	...
38¼	26	MMI	33¼	...	...	...	...
346	175	More O'Ferrall	331	...	13.2	5.0	39.6
133	48	NMC Group	117	...	2.7	2.9	18.1
233	60	Osborne & Little	233	+2	...	2.8	25.3
525	455	Portals	506	...	...	3.6	17.5
3¼	¼	Premier Hlth	2¼	...	...	...	...
286	159	Quarto	281	...	...	2.6	17.3
347	270	St Ives Gp	320	-2	...	2.1	21.1
186	142	Saatchi	146	-11	...	...	...
474	292	Sappi	351	...	...	9.3	6.7
32	11¼	Serif	15¼	+½	...	...	...
32¼	14	Shandwick	25	...	...	...	...
397	294	Smith David	350	-3	...	3.6	18.3
295	206	Smurfit (Jeff)	264	-5	...	1.6	6.3
91	45	Somic	83	+4	2.5	3.5	36.5
246	183	Star-Plus	207	...	8.4	5.1	19.5
29¼	16¼	Taylor Nelson	26¼	...	0.3	1.6	22.2
104	38	VTR	98	...	...	4.9	14.7
106	40	WPP	91	+3	...	1.4	3.4
179	62	Wace	176	+1	...	0.7	...
265	203	Waddington (J)	230	-3	...	4.4	17.2
410	270	Waterlough	375	...	...	2.0	29.4
7	3¼	Westport	7¼	-½	...	...	...
34	12	Whitney Mck	17	...	...	...	...
93	55	Wood (SW)	93	...	...	2.0	19.8

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
116	41	Allied Lon	112	...	...	3.9	29.0
47	35	Arcadian	37	...	...	...	...
16¼	4¼	Ascot Hldgs	5¼	...	...	...	...
135	52	Asda	133	...	...	2.0	14.0
152	88	Avonside	136	...	4.1	3.8	19.0
2637¼	2062¼	BCE	2325	...	...	...	...
670	396	Bilton	640	...	18.9	3.7	33.1
110	33	Bourne End	97	...	...	1.7	...
236	150	Bradford	234	...	5.9	3.2	23.7
23	5	Bredero	13¼	...	...	...	...
449	166¼	Br Land	438	-2	...	2.0	39.9
248	140¼	Brixton	245	+1	...	4.3	19.4
90	42	Burford	90	...	...	1.8	...
187	99	Cap & Regnl	185	...	...	0.9	...
230	120	Cardiff Prop	230	...	2.4	1.3	...
595	196	Chesterfield	595	+4	11.5	2.4	42.6
43	12	Cty Site Ests	32	-1	...	...	...
31	12	Clarke Nickolls	31	...	...	...	...
548	300	Compco	300	...	12.9	5.6	65.2
53	34	Conrad Rhlst GS	45	...	...	...	...
1435	818	Daejan	1435	+10	...	2.4	17.7
3¼	¼	Dares Estates	¼	...	...	...	...
129	53	Debenham Twsn	125	+1	...	3.0	24.3
12	4	De Morgan	8	...	...	...	...
180	76	Dencora	173	...	3.0	2.2	...
666	263	Derwent Hldgs	664	...	8.7	1.6	...
45	10	Development Sec	34¼	+½	...	...	...
58	25	Dwyer	56	-1	...	...	...
395	170	Estates Agency	395	...	...	2.4	46.9
27	7¼	Estates Gen	19	...	...	...	...
215	132	Evans Of Leeds	215	+1	...	2.8	18.8
39¼	11	Five Oaks	32¼	...	...	...	...
65	30	Fletcher King	64	...	1.0	2.0	42.4
501	276¼	Frogmore	501	+4	...	4.0	24.1
235	97	Grainger	234	...	5.2	2.8	52.3
233	116¼	Gt Portland	225	-1	...	4.4	21.5
16	3¼	Greycoat	16	...	...	...	...
192	101	HK Land	185	+2	...	3.4	24.4
165	35	Hambro Cntyn	66	-2	0.5	0.9	...
410	233	Hammerson	407	+2	10.0	3.1	41.2
295	127	Helical Bar	295	+1	...	2.1	10.6
39	19	Hemingway	33	...	...	...	...
132	56	Herring Baker	60	...	3.7	7.6	15.1
153	133	Jermyn	136	...	...	...	...
769	435	Land Sec	767	+2	23.1	3.8	22.9
114	73	Lon Merch Sec	113	...	4.0	4.4	17.6
22¼	5¼	Lon & Metro	11	...	...	...	...
559	315¼	MEPC	546	+5	...	4.7	37.4
9	5	McInerney A	6¼	...	...	...	...
160	90	McKay Sec	146	...	3.5	2.7	22.0
7¼	[illegible]	Markheath	4	...	...	...	...
[illegible]	[illegible]	Merivale Mre	76	...	...	...	...
5	5	Merlin Int	2	...	...	...	...
48	29	Moorfield Est	46	...	...	...	...
1300	775	Mountview	1200	...	22.0	2.3	12.0
173	112	Muckl... (A&J)	173	...	...	4.4	26.9
46	30	Oxiers Prop	41	...	...	...	...
10¼	1¼	Olsen Est	3	...	...	...	0.4
172	69	PSIT	167	...	4.1	3.1	33.1
359	139	Peel	344	...	4.0	1.5	...
16	4¼	Power Corp	5	...	...	...	...
48	22	Property Trust	39	...	...	...	11.1
63	33	Raglan	35	-1	...	...	...
29	11	Regalian	27¼	-1½	...	...	...
135	110	Rowlinson Secs	135	...	1.5	1.4	36.2
50	16	St Modwen Prp	47	...	0.9	2.4	35.8
91	30	Savills	51	+3	...	1.5	32.1
112	33¼	Scot Met	91	...	...	2.1	∞
117	39	Shaftesbury	117	...	...	...	...
15¼	5	Shield	11	...	...	...	5.6
277	139¼	Slough Estates	275	-1	...	3.7	19.2
93	56	Southend Prop	90	-2	...	3.3	...
39	16	Stanhope Prps	25¼	...	...	...	...
236	114	Tops Ests	225	...	2.1	1.2	80.0
137	79	Town Centre	132	-1	...	3.2	35.6
95	43	Trafford Park	95	...	...	3.7	21.9
56	17	UK Land	32	...	...	...	...
12	4	Union Square	9¼	...	...	...	...
307	180	Warner	307	+5	10.4	4.2	28.0
219	168	Warnford	217	...	7.5	4.4	15.7
8	2	Waterglade	2¼	...	...	...	...
95	34	Wates	92	...	...	...	...
76	40	Wood John D	66	+2	...	...	...

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
28	11	Automagic	29	...	...	...	...
184	84	Headlam	184	+1	...	2.0	41.5
500	285	Lambert	330	...	13.2	5.2	7.8
100	44	Pittards	50	-1	1.5	3.8	14.3
30	20	Strong & Fisher	21	...	1.0	6.0	5.8
218	89	Stylo	217	...	...	1.7	...
66	53	UK Safety	58	-1	...	5.6	1.9

TEXTILES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
521	408	Allied Text	495	...	12.7	3.2	15.9
69	54	Beckman (A)	56	...	3.5	8.0	∞
41	21	Bolmn Gp	38	+2	...	...	...
171	141	Br Mohair	171	...	8.5	6.2	16.0
53	15	Chartwell	40	...	...	...	...
364	298	Claremont Ga	345	+1	7.5	2.7	21.5
601	522	Courtauld Text	543	...	13.9	3.2	14.9
53¼	24¼	Cupid	26	...	...	...	...
348¼	131	Dawson	132	...	...	7.3	9.0
47	22	Drummond	40	...	...	...	...
84	65	Faupel	82	...	...	7.5	12.7
34	15	Foster (John)	21	+1	...	...	...
133	82	Gaskell	115	...	4.2	4.6	...
223	156	Hicking Pntcst	213	+4	...	2.3	16.5
90	45	Jerome (S)	68	...	...	0.4	...
422	249	Lamont	394	...	12.0	3.8	26.1
515	353¼	Leeds	506	...	8.5	2.1	∞
64	15	Lister	57	-4	0.1	0.2	...
122	73	Lyles (S)	89	+1	...	4.6	...
215	89	Magellan	212	...	1.4	0.8	...
214	77¼	Parkland	198	...	...	1.1	...
102¼	82	Readicut	97	...	...	4.4	18.3
66	35	SEET	53	...	...	...	...
147	72	Sirdar	129	...	...	5.2	8.9
72	44	Stirling Gp	71	...	1.8	3.3	17.4
51	37	Stoddard	37	...	...	5.1	34.4
312	250	Tomkinsons	278	...	11.5	5.2	∞
62¼	32¼	West Trust	37	...	...	9.2	...
241	126	Yorklyde	241	...	...	2.8	15.8

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
541	407	BAT	517	-2	...	4.6	15.5

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
529	349	Assoc Br Ports	524	+4	...	2.1	...
976	707	BAA	975	+11	...	2.1	24.2
435	349	Br Airways	433	...	...	3.1	19.4
110	56	Clarkson (H)	101	...	1.7	2.2	...
23	23	Davies Newman	23	...	...	...	...
515	332	Eurotunnel Uts	464	-4	...	...	...
82	44	Fisher (James)	78	...	0.5	0.8	30.9
250	147	IoM Steam	217¼	...	...	4.8	11.4
38	24	Jacobs (JI)	34	...	0.5	1.8	...
107	41	Lon O'Seas Frts	103	...	...	1.3	18.9
445	264	Mersey Docks	431	+1	...	2.6	29.3
271	181	Nall Express	256	...	...	3.5	26.4
284	230	NFC	234	-6½	6.5	3.5	17.8
343	244	Ocean Group	311	-4	...	5.8	...
73	40	Ocean Wilson	70	...	4.0	7.1	12.7
676	504	P & O Dfd	603	-10	...	6.3	32.7
194	127	P & O 5 1/2%	188	...	...	3.7	...
629	448	Powell Duffryn	619	-9	...	4.6	24.0
225	117	Seacon	211	...	...	3.2	13.3
163	112	Stagecoach	149	+1	...	3.2	18.0
81¼	31¼	TNT	73	-1	...	...	...
773	624	Tibbet & Britten	725	...	12.6	2.2	27.8
382	37	Tiphook	62	+2	...	...	...
298	227	TDG	274	-1	...	4.3	9.1

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
565	455	Anglian Water	560	+7	...	4.8	11.2
347	244	Mid Kent Hdgs	347	...	...	3.9	12.6
703	547	Northumbrian	695	+6	...	4.2	8.1
568	431¼	North West	567	+11	...	4.7	10.1
594	439	Severn Trent	592	+11	...	4.6	9.0
625	454	Sthrn Water	625	+14	...	4.3	10.4
1605	1225	Sth Staffs	1515	...	48.5	4.0	10.8
622	465	South West	615	+17	...	4.9	10.1
584	454	Thames Water	535	+5	...	4.8	10.9
681	506	Welsh Water	670	+5	...	4.4	8.6
693	536	Wessex Water	675	+4	...	4.0	10.2
596	473¼	Yorkshire W	595	+16	...	4.6	9.8

Source: Finstat

♠ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; * Ex rights issue; ¶ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

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BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
102	100	Treas 8½% 1994	100¾	...	8.46	5.10
109¾	102	Treas 14½% 1994	102	-¼	14.19	5.11
109	103	Exch 13½% 1994	103¼	...	13.08	5.00
105	102¼	Treas 10% 1994	102¼	...	9.76	4.98
110	105	Exch 12½% 1994	105	...	11.89	4.97
105	103	Treas 9% 1994	103	...	8.68	4.94
111	107	Treas 12% 1995	107	...	11.15	4.93
97¼	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	97¼	+¼	3.08	4.68
109¼	107	Exch 10¼% 1995	108	...	9.49	5.03
116¼	113¼	Treas 12¾% 1995	114	...	11.18	5.07
120¼	116	Treas 14% 1996	117	...	11.92	5.18
129¼	121¼	Treas 15¼% 1996	122	-¼	12.46	5.24
120	115¼	Exch 13¼% 1996	118¼	-¼	11.22	5.26
112	108¼	Conv 10% 1996	112	-¼	8.90	5.38
122	118¼	Treas 13¼% 1997	121	-¼	10.88	5.54
114¼	110	Exch 10½% 1997	114¼	-¼	9.18	5.52
110	105¼	Treas 8¾% 1997	110	-¼	7.92	5.59
132	127	Exch 15% 1997	131¼	-¼	11.40	5.78
114	109	Exch 9¾% 1998	114¼	-¼	8.53	5.79
105	99	Treas 7¼% 1998	105	-¼	6.85	5.71
105¼	101	Treas 7¼% B 1998	105	-¼	6.85	5.71
102¼	97	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	102¼	...	6.60	5.06
130	125	Treas 14% 1998-01	130	-¼	10.70	6.00

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
139¾	133	Treas 15½% 1998	139	-¼	11.11	5.91
125	118¼	Exch 12% 1998	125	...	9.59	6.00
115	108	Treas 9½% 1999	115	...	8.25	5.99
127	120	Exch 12¼% 1999	127	...	9.62	6.13
120	112	Treas 10½% 1999	120¼	-¼	8.72	6.05
120	112	Conv 10¼% 1999	120	...	8.52	6.13
114	106	Conv 9% 2000	114	+¼	7.84	6.11
135	125¼	Treas 13% 2000	135	+¼	9.62	6.38
120	109	Treas 10% 2001	120	+¼	8.30	6.39
121¼	108¼	Treas 9¾% 2002	121¼	+¼	8.05	6.53
111	97	Treas 8% 2003	111	...	7.21	6.43
124	109¼	Treas 10% 2003	124	+¼	8.03	6.56
127	116¼	Treas 11½% 2001-04	127	+¼	9.00	6.63
83	67	Fund 3½% 1999-04	83	...	4.22	5.66
122	105¼	Conv 9½% 2004	122	...	7.77	6.58
122	105¼	Conv 9½% 2005	122	...	7.25	6.62
140	124	Treas 12½% 2003-05	140	-¼	8.89	6.81
109¼	94	Treas 8% 2002-06	109¼	-¼	7.30	6.56
133¼	118	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	133	-¼	8.81	6.77
115	97	Treas 8½% 2007	115¼	-¼	7.35	6.71
148¼	131	Treas 13½% 2004-08	148¼	-¼	9.08	6.84

LONGS (over 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
121	101¼	Treas 9% 2008	121	...	7.44	6.73
112	92	Treas 8% 2009	112	+¼	7.14	6.74
122	100¼	Conv 9% 2011	122	...	7.33	6.75
123¼	100	Treas 9% 2012	123	+¼	7.29	6.75
90	70¼	Treas 5½% 2008-12	90	+¼	6.06	6.34
111	89¼	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	111	+¼	6.98	6.68
113	93	Treas 8% 2013	113	+¼	7.03	6.72
154¼	125	Exch 12% 2013-17	154	+¼	7.76	6.91
123	97	Treas 8¾% 2017	123	+¼	7.07	6.72

UNDATED

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
51	38¼	War Ln 3½%	51	+¼	6.78	...
36	27	Treas 2½%	36	+¼	6.93	...

INDEX-LINKED

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
136¼	131¼	Treas IL 2% 1994	136¼	...	...	...
204¼	194	Treas IL 2% 1996	204¼	+¼	0.99	1.89
113	105	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	113	+¼	1.28	1.92
173¼	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	173¼	+¼	2.34	2.70
170	156	Treas IL 2½% 2003	170	+¼	2.55	2.84
115¼	105¼	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	115	+¼	2.62	2.91
180	159¼	Treas IL 2% 2006	180¼	+¼	2.65	2.88
165	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	164	+¼	2.81	3.01
171	148	Treas IL 2½% 2011	171	+¼	2.87	3.05
142	122	Treas IL 2½% 2013	142	+¼	2.89	3.06
153¼	130	Treas IL 2½% 2016	152¼	+¼	2.94	3.10
148	126	Treas IL 2½% 2020	147	+¼	3.00	3.13
124	102¼	Treas IL 2½% 2024	124	+¼	2.99	3.11
124	103¼	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	124	+¼	3.01	3.14

British Gas unlikely to be split up say rivals

■ The MMC recommendation to break up British Gas looks set to be overturned by the Government. Michael Heseltine is likely to introduce competition to British Gas instead

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government is set to open the gas industry to full competition, but is likely to reject the immediate divestment of British Gas's trading arm, independent gas companies believe.

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, is expected to announce the Government's response to the Monopolies and Merger Commission's enquiry soon. The investigation, which looked at the future of British Gas and the UK gas market, recommended the break-up of British Gas and the subsequent opening of the UK gas market to competition.

Independent gas suppliers believe that the Government's review now looks likely to favour the introduction of competition into the market in advance of any divestment in a reversal of the MMC's recommendations.

British Gas yesterday urged the Government to announce its decisions as soon as possible. Cedric Brown, chief executive, told a London conference that until the Government made its move, investment and other decisions would be increasingly difficult to make.

While Mr Brown insisted British Gas "would not shrink" from competition, he said that the access that competition would bring to foreign-owned companies — he specifically cited the US-owned UtiliCorp — was not being reciprocated, and he hoped European energy ministers would soon be considering the issue.

Private contacts both with ministers and Department of Trade and Industry officials led the gas independents yesterday to claim that the principal focus of the Government's response will now be on competition, rather than divestment — though divestment is still likely to feature in the Government's decision as a longer-term possibility. The Government, though, is said to fear likely price rises for domestic gas consumers. British Gas has said price increases would result from full divestment.

As a result of the Government's forthcoming decision on the MMC report, legislation is unlikely to be brought forward until next autumn, the independents believe, with any opening of the UK gas market unlikely before 1996. The Gas Bill would provide for a transition period towards the introduction of competition. The Government's decision on the MMC enquiry could come within the next two weeks before Parliament breaks for the Christmas recess, or early in the new year.

UtiliCorp, one of the leading independent suppliers, yesterday forecast the likely market share for the independent companies following competition, and published new poll findings showing an increase in consumer support for the gas market being made more open.

In what it accepted was an "ambitious" target, UtiliCorp forecast the independents gaining market share at about 5 per cent per annum of the current market for the first four years after the introduction of competition.

The independents believe that the competitiveness of British Gas would improve with competition, which would slow the growth of their own market share, bringing it down thereafter to 3 per cent per year for two years, and then half that subsequently.

UtiliCorp said yesterday that its own calculations suggested it would be able to offer prices about 8 percentage points below those of British Gas.

PETER TREVNOR



Sir Ernest Harrison, chairman, and David Peacock, chief executive, after delivering Chubb's results yesterday

Currency gains secure Chubb rise

BY MARTIN FLANAGAN

SHARES in Chubb Security, the electronic surveillance-to-locks group, dropped 14p to 370p as the City noted that a sharp rise in interim profits was driven largely by currency gains and a lower redundancy charge.

The market also took on board a cautious statement about prospects from Chubb, spun off from Racal Electronics last year, which said the outcome for 1993-94 would be "satisfactory" if trading conditions did not worsen.

In the six months to October 8, pre-tax profits increased 37 per cent to £34.2 million (£25 million), leading to an interim dividend up to 2p (1.5p). However, gains on translating foreign profits into sterling and changed accounting rules added more than £1 million to operating profits, while the charge for continuing redundancies and reorganisation fell from £5.7 million last time to £1.9 million.

Earnings per share rose to 7.08p (4.75p). Chubb's profitable performance contrasted strikingly with its former parent, which last week slid £388,000 into the red at half-time. Chubb said yesterday it planned 36 product launches over the next two years — 22 in the electronic security division and 14 in the locks business.

Electronic security boosted profits to £17.9 million (£14.9 million). Physical security, such as locks and safes, increased profits to £17.4 million (£12.1 million). Chubb also said that its cost-cutting drive continues. Five of its 30 factories are to close.

The company had an £8.3 million cash pile at the end of the trading period after eliminating debt of £4.8 million.

Tempus, page 27

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Bemrose calls for cash to finance US takeover

BEMROSE Corporation, the printer of security and promotional products, is calling on shareholders for £19.5 million through a one-for-four rights issue at 325p to help fund the $27 million acquisition of McCleery-Cumming, of Iowa, the second largest producer of advertising calendars in the US. Bemrose, the third largest producer of advertising calendars in America, forecast profits before tax and exceptional credits in the year to January 1, 1994, of not less than £10 million (£6.25 million).

McCleery-Cumming's products include the *Playboy* calendars. The company made pre-tax profits of $5.05 million in the year to end-February 1993, on sales of $31.8 million.

Cathay Airbus deal

CATHAY Pacific, the Hong Kong airline, has ordered six aircraft from Airbus Industrie, the European consortium of which British Aerospace is the UK partner, for US$801 million. There was disappointment for Rolls-Royce after a decision by Cathay, which operates an all-Rolls-Royce fleet, to opt for engines built by a Franco-US joint venture of General Electric and SNECMA. Cathay will take delivery of the long-haul A340-300s from 1996-97.

Deutsche Bank ahead

GERMANY'S Deutsche Bank increased consolidated operating profits to DM4.21 billion marks in the first ten months of the year, up 11 per cent on the same period last year. The bank now publishes part-time results for operating profits after provisions. These provisions rose 54.4 per cent to DM2.46 billion. Deutsche Bank AG, the parent company, reported that operating profits had fallen 9.3 per cent to DM2.36 billion. Its balance sheet rose 9.1 per cent to DM364.51 billion.

BSS remains confident

BSS Group, the distributor of heating, plumbing and pipeline equipment, lifted pre-tax profits to £5.07 million (£4.08 million) in the half year to end-September, on turnover ahead to £123 million (£112 million). Earnings climbed to 12.3p (11.4p) a share. The interim dividend is maintained at 5.75p. The company said it remains confident of progress, adding that there are signs of recovery in the housing market. BSS shares climbed 11p to 495p.

Taunton plans campaign to regain cider market share

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE flood of new "yuppie ciders" into an already crowded marketplace and competition from cheaper priced products has sparked a response from Taunton Cider, one of the three big producers, which plans a campaign with the big supermarket chains to regain market share.

Taunton yesterday announced pre-tax profits, on a strictly comparable basis adjusted for the flotation in July 1992, ahead from £9.9 million to £11.0 million in the six months to end-October. Sales barely changed at £65.1 million. The dividend is up from 2.40p to 2.65p.

Michael Cottrell, the chairman, said Taunton had lifted its share of the draught cider sector over the first half, after a period of modest market share loss. But premium brands, such as Diamond White, whose explosive sales growth has now started to slow, Red Rock and Brody, were being squeezed in the off trade by the plethora of new, aggressively priced brands.

Meanwhile, Taunton will also have to act positively to the fast growing economy sector, which provides cider mainly through the big retail outlets at prices far cheaper than the premium brands. Taunton expects to offer various promotions, including price cuts, in supermarkets, working in tandem with the retailers' own house brands, to squeeze out the independents.

The company is still seeking its own international "guest beer" brand from overseas, that will be distributed through Taunton's existing network. Talks have started with potential partners. Taunton's shares fell 9p to 178p.

Chinese urge UK to invest

BY A CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S differences with China over the future of Hong Kong should not be allowed to hit trading links between the two countries, business leaders were told yesterday.

The Chinese ambassador to the UK urged British companies to take advantage of the growing opportunities in China for investment because of his country's rapid economic expansion.

Ma Yuzhen detailed multi-billion pound road, rail, air and sea projects planned in China over the next few years that could attract lucrative work for British companies. He told a Confederation of British Industry conference in London: "We don't want to see differences over Hong Kong affect our trade relations."

The ambassador told more than 100 officials from British companies, banks and government departments that China and Britain had much to benefit through closer co-operation and encouraged them to make a "bold move" by investing in China.

Among projects planned over the next few years are 10 new or upgraded airports, 10 major railway projects and a number of new roads.

British direct exports to China have virtually doubled so far this year to £545 million.

Profit acceleration at Stagecoach Holdings

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

STAGECOACH Holdings, the recently floated bus and coach operator, which is based in Perth, Tayside, said it continues to investigate acquisition opportunities as it revealed an acceleration in interim profits.

Pre-tax profits advanced 46.7 per cent to £8.86 million in the 24 weeks to October 16, on total turnover, boosted by acquisitions and increased business, ahead at £81 million (£70.9 million). Pre-tax profits, excluding the contribution from new acquisitions, have increased by 13 per cent.

The group has made three acquisitions worth more than £18.4 million since it came to the market in July, adding £55 million to turnover. Brian Souter, the chairman who co-founded the company with his sister Ann Gloag, is confident about the future and promises more acquisitions.

He said: "We are continuing to investigate other acquisition opportunities." Mr Souter added that he is particularly interested in the upcoming London bus privatisations, involving nine companies with £450 million of turnover which are expected to take place next year.

Stagecoach, which owns and operates a total of about 4,500 vehicles, purchased 256 new coaches during the period and is now half way through a five-year replacement programme which will see the average age of its buses fall from ten years to about six years.

Earnings have increased by 33.3 per cent to 4.4p (3.3p) a share. Shareholders will receive an interim dividend of 1.5p, with the final dividend forecast at 2.5p, making a total payout of 4p. Had the company been on the stock market last year total dividends would have been 3.8p.

Stagecoach shares firmed 1p to 149p, compared with July's placing and offer for sale at 112p.



Souter: London targeted

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

ALLIED COLLOIDS (Fin)
Pre-tax: £1.03m (£1.26m)
EPS: 5p (6p)
Div: 2.4p, mkg 3.6p
Total dividend in previous year was 3.45p. Year-end gearing was seven per cent. No trading upturn likely in current year

ASS. BR. ENGINEERING
Pre-tax: £106,000
EPS: 0.02p (0.04p loss)
Div: Nil (nil)
Interim results. First half last year saw losses of £46,000 before tax. Turnover rose to £25.3 million from £17.18 million

ATKINS GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £96,000 loss
EPS: 2.1p loss
Div: 3.85p (3.6p)
Profit in previous interim period was £16,000, with earnings of 0.33p a share. Second half will show customary seasonal upturn

CRANSWICK (Int)
Pre-tax: £745,000
EPS: 3.8p (6p)
Div: 2.4p (2.4p)
Profit in previous interim period was £968,000. Turnover rose to £54.1 million from £49.6 million. Pig prices have stabilised

CREIGHTON'S NAT. (Int)
Pre-tax: £819,000
EPS: 11.6p (9.1p)
Div: 2.2p (2.1p)
Previous interim profit was £817,000. Increase attributed to acquisitions. Exports continue to show increase

CRESTON (Fin)
Pre-tax: £642,000 loss
EPS: 3.2p loss
Div: Nil (nil)
Losses reduced from £1.09 million before tax and 5.7p a share in previous year. Turnover fell to £6.25 million from £8.9 million

DRUMMOND GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £370,000
EPS: 1.17p (1.84p loss)
Div: Nil (nil)
Previous interim profit was £57,000. Turnover eased to £22.9 million from £24.05 million. Board says further improvement is required

MORRIS ASHBY (Int)
Pre-tax: £839,000
EPS: 6.3p (5.5p)
Div: 2p (1.7p)
Previous interim profit was £639,000. Board expects to pay similar final dividend to last year on enlarged share capital

OCEONICS GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £222,000
EPS: 0.2p loss
Div: Nil (nil)
Previous interim profit was £1.77 million, with earnings of 0.5p. Turnover reduced to £13.2 million from £20.6 million

TAMS (JOHN) GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £501,000
EPS: 1.42p (1.25p)
Div: 1.6p (1.59p)
Previous interim profit was £379,000. Turnover rose to £11.6 million from £9.9 million. Board sees improvement in trading

WELLMAN (Int)
Pre-tax: £527,000 loss
EPS: 1.8p loss
Div: 0.3p (0.3p)
Profit was £321,000 previously with earnings of 0.5p a share. Turnover fell to £9.9 million from £13.4 million

EVANS OF LEEDS (Int)
Pre-tax: £4.04m (£3.66m)
EPS: 4.72p (4.28p)
Div: 1.58p (1.43p)
Total revenue rose to £12.1 million from £10.4 million. A one-for-one free capitalisation share issue is proposed

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PORTOBELLO ROAD. Bright first floor flat. 1 bedroom. £62,000. Tel: 081 968 7290.
SEYMOUR WALK SW10. Notice is hereby given of an offer of £50,000 for this flat. If no higher offer is rec'd by 15/12/93 this sale will proceed. Winkworths 071 373 9092.
SW5 3 bed mews house. Garage, unmodernised, access to roof F/h £220K 071 370 0846

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Where the write stuff wins

Can't sell your house? Organise an essay competition.

Jamie Dettmer reports on the latest American wheeze

Fancy a 2,750 square-foot three-bedroomed house in Summit Valley adjacent to California's San Bernardino national forest for the knock-down price of a mere $50 (about £33)? What about, for just $100, an ocean-front home with George and Barbara Bush for neighbours in swanky Kennebunkport, Maine? Think there's a catch? Well, you would have to have the "write stuff" as well.

Come on down for the great home-giveaway essay contest sweeping an America that has become frustrated with the prolonged property slump. For an average entry charge of $100 you can have the chance to bet your creative skills and, if you win, make a dream come true.

Using essay contests to shift property stuck in the slump has been touted as the "new way in creative real estate marketing". It is sweeping across America. Opportunities abound: New England country inns, a nightclub in Oakland, a motel and trailer park in little ole' Oak Creek, Colorado. For a $250 entry fee you could enter the contest organised by the owners of a five-bedroomed house in Philadelphia; in Colorado a $100 fee could have you scribbling away for a chain of three Mexican restaurants; a 75-word essay could win you a bed-and-breakfast in Minneapolis.

Oddly, this latest craze did not begin in California. The trend began to take off after an essay contest saw the Center Lovell Inn, a rambling 15-room antebellum house in Lovell, Maine, change hands. Bill and Susie Mosca, who organised the competition for their inn after they found it impossible to sell, popularised the writing contest idea through their appearances on popular chat shows like "Donahue".

They advertised the contest and got 7,000 entries. They only needed to get 5,000 to reach the $500,000 that was considered a fair price for the property. "For the price of taking the wife out to dinner, or a few lottery tickets, an essay contest gives someone a chance to get something they might never have had: a chance to change their life, to make the American dream come true," says Bill Mosca, who has now set up in business to advise others on how to off-load their hard-to-sell properties using the same method.

Estate agents, known as realtors in America, are not impressed. "Every time there is a slow-down in the real estate market, sellers start to become innovative," said Kenneth Kerin, the vice-president of the National Realtors Association. "Essay contests are a combination of innovation and desperation."

But try telling that to Rick and Janice Cox, who won the competition for the Center Lovell Inn. Until their victory they were working as chef and manager in a Maryland restaurant. "There's no way we ever could have hoped to own, free and clear, a place like this," said Janice. "I wanted a bed-and-breakfast and my husband wanted a restaurant. We got both." The Coxes have had to repair and rebuild parts of the building and the whole inn needs to be re-painted. Even so, they are delighted that for $100 they got the freehold of a major property.

Advocates of the essay contests argue that it is a game with no losers. There are, of course, losers — the people who part with their cash, write their articles on a theme chosen by the owners and fail to win. But most who fail remain uncynical about the competitions and quickly enter others.

The idea is not problem-free. There is a danger of confidence tricksters, or not getting your money back if a competition is cancelled. There may be income tax claims and in some states the contests may be illegal.

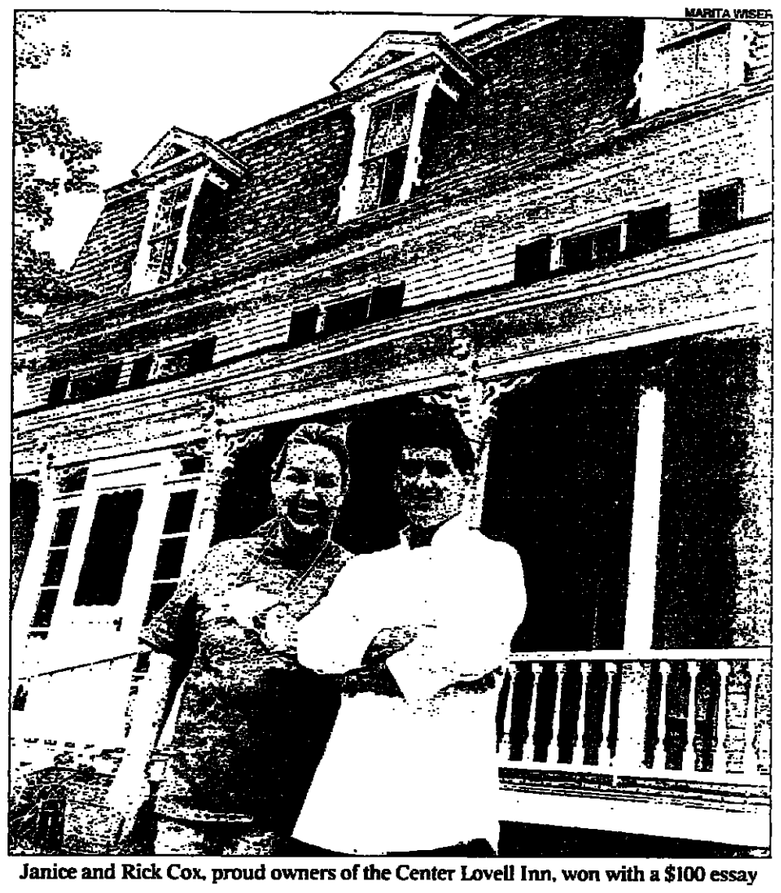
None of this deterred Darriel and Melanie Gregory, who are holding a writing competition for their three-bedroomed, custom-built house alongside the San Bernardino forest.

"Life's a chance," said Mrs Gregory. "I met my husband through an ad in *Easy Rider* magazine, when he advertised that he wanted to meet an Amazon woman. If that's not a gamble, what is?"

In 1985, the couple moved into the property when it was just a cabin. Both are over 6ft tall and found the cabin too small. As children arrived they added to it, extending it to 2,750 square feet. The ceilings in all the rooms are high: 12ft in the bedrooms, 18ft in the dining room and a magnificent 24ft in the sitting room. The house is surrounded by five acres and 60 apple, pear and cherry trees, and is valued at $419,000. It has been on the market for two years.

The competition entry fee is $50. The prize will go to the best essay, not more than 300 words, which begins: "I would like to live in a house in Summit Valley because..." The couple are hoping for 8,500 entries.

Mrs Gregory, an unemployed medical assistant, says she will not read the entries, which will be judged by a group of local teachers. Bad grammar or spelling will not be taken into account ("if we did, that would eliminate half of California", she jokes). More than a thousands entries have been received already.


MARITA WISER

Janice and Rick Cox, proud owners of the Center Lovell Inn, won with a $100 essay

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Nrwd 2sh £53 0816583157
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NW6 2b £300 0816838826
Pnty 1bf156 0617719688
Rich 1s £55 0818825184
SE18 5bf173 0712378529
SE18 1s £64 0712321488
SE18 1b £95 03892 42483
SE22 1shf57 0816935886
SE25 5bf200 0850243596
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SW3 2bd£286 0713520835
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SW17 1bf130 0495873148
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Severe sanctions for solicitors in breach

Bolton v The Law Society

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Rose and Lord Justice Waite

[Judgment December 6]

A solicitor who lapsed from the standard of integrity, probity and complete trustworthiness required by his membership of the profession had to expect that severe sanctions would be imposed on him by the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal.

The fundamental purpose in making disciplinary orders was not primarily punitive or deterrent but to maintain a well-founded confidence among members of the public that any solicitor whom they might instruct would be of unquestionable integrity and trustworthiness.

The Court of Appeal so stated on the Law Society's appeal from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Tucker and Mr Justice Buckley) which had allowed an appeal by Andrew John Bolton from the decision of the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal sentencing him to two years suspension from practising as a solicitor. The Divisional Court had quashed the sentence and substituted a fine of £3,000.

The Court of Appeal, although considering that the Divisional Court had erred in principle, declined to allow the appeal and reinstate the suspension since the matters complained of had occurred over two years ago.

Mr Bolton had acted in a transaction for the sale of a flat by his wife to her brother, and had received moneys from mortgagees to hold until the property was conveyed to the purchaser and security documents had been executed in favour of the mortgagees. Almost immediately he had disbursed the whole sum, the sale was never completed and the security documents never executed. When the matter came to light Mr Bolton made good the sum.

Mr Charles Flint for the Law Society; Mr Malcolm Knott for Mr Bolton.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS referred to the three salient points in the tribunal's decision: that (i) Mr Bolton was honest, (ii) his conduct was unacceptable and very serious and (iii) ordinarily a sentence of striking off would be appropriate. On the present facts the tribunal had felt able to make a more lenient order.

His Lordship found no fault with their reasoning. Even if honest, Mr Bolton's conduct represented a flagrant departure from the most elementary rules which bound anyone, most of all a solicitor, holding a sum of money on behalf on another.

The Divisional Court had referred to the principles applicable on the appeal from the tribunal, namely that the court would be very slow indeed to interfere with a penalty imposed by a professional tribunal in a case of professional misconduct: see *McCoan v GMC* ([1964] 1 WLR 1107, 113).

Those principles were not controversial, but had been understood and applied for the last 30 years at least. His Lordship concluded that the Divisional Court had given no good reason for interfering with the tribunal's decision and had acted contrary to settled principles in doing so.

The general principles underlying the present type of case had been laid down in a number of authorities, in particular, in unreported decisions of Lord Donaldson of Lymington exercising the jurisdiction conferred on the Master of the Rolls by sections 13 and 49 of the Solicitors Act 1974.

Practising lawyers were required to discharge their professional duties with integrity, probity and complete trustworthiness. That applied as much to barristers as to solicitors.

However, the present appeal concerned a solicitor and where a client's money had been misappropriated the complaint was inevitably made against a solicitor, since solicitors, not barristers, received and handled clients' moneys.

Any solicitor shown to have discharged his professional duties with anything less than complete integrity and trustworthiness had to expect severe sanctions to be imposed on him by the tribunal.

The most serious lapses involved dishonesty. In such cases the tribunal almost invariably, no matter how strong the mitigation, ordered that the solicitor be struck off. Only infrequently in recent years had re-admission been permitted, even after the passage of years and even where every effort had been made by the solicitor to re-establish himself and redeem his reputation.

Where no dishonesty was shown but the solicitor fell below the required standards, his lapse was less serious, but it remained a matter of very great seriousness in a member of a profession whose reputation depended on trust. A striking off order might, but would not necessarily, follow.

The decision to strike off or suspend often involved a fine and difficult exercise of judgment to be made by the tribunal as an informed and expert body on all the facts of the case. Only in a very unusual and venial case would the tribunal be likely to regard as appropriate any order less severe than suspension.

Referring to the reasons why such orders, which might otherwise be thought harsh, were made, his Lordship said that there was in some cases a punitive and deterrent element. However, in most cases the tribunal's order would primarily be directed to one or other of two other purposes:

1 To be sure that the offending solicitor did not have the opportunity to repeat his offence;

2 The most fundamental of all: to maintain the reputation of the profession as one in which every member, of whatever standing, might be trusted to the ends of the earth. To maintain that reputation and sustain public confidence in the integrity of the profession it was often necessary that those guilty of serious lapses were not only expelled but denied re-admission.

If a member of the public sold his house, very often his largest asset, and entrusted the proceeds of sale to his solicitor pending re-investment in another house, he was ordinarily entitled to expect that the solicitor would be a person whose trustworthiness was not and never had been seriously in question, otherwise the whole profession and the public as a whole was injured. A profession's most valuable asset was its collective reputation and the confidence which that inspired.

Because orders made by the tribunal were not primarily punitive it followed that considerations ordinarily carrying weight in mitigation of punishment had less effect on the exercise of the jurisdiction.

It could never be an objection to an order for suspension that the solicitor might be unable to re-establish his practice when the period of suspension was past. If that were likely to be so, the consequence for him and his family might be deeply unfortunate, and unintended. But it did not make suspension the wrong order if it was otherwise right.

The reputation of the profession was more important than the fortunes of an individual member. Membership of a profession brought many benefits: but that was part of the price.

In the exceptional circumstances of the case the appeal would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Rose and Lord Justice Waite agreed.

Solicitors: Marsh Ferriman & Cheale, Worthing; A. J. Bolton & Co, Stratford.

Creditor not obliged to take security offer

In re a Debtor (No 415-SD-1993)

Before Mr Justice Jacob

[Judgment November 16]

A debtor's offer to give security over shares held by him but not presently realisable, did not constitute "other grounds" within the meaning of rule 6.5(4)(d) of the Insolvency Rules (SI 1986 No 1925) thus precluding the court from granting his application to set aside a statutory demand made by the petitioning creditor pursuant to section 268 of the Insolvency Act 1986.

The "other grounds" of the rule related only to enquiries by the court, at the statutory demand stage, as to whether or not it had been shown that the debtor was, under section 268(1), "unable to pay a debt" or, under section 268(2), "has no reasonable prospect of being able to pay a debt" and ancillary matters as to whether the demand was fair.

In the case of an unsecured debt the creditor was not obliged to take the security offered by the debtor however good it might be.

Mr Justice Jacob so held in the Chancery Division when dismissing an appeal by the debtor against an order of Mr Registrar Scott, made on April 15, 1993, refusing the debtor's application to set aside a statutory demand served upon him by the petitioning creditor.

Mr John Briggs for the debtor; Mr Christopher Tidmarsh for the creditor.

MR JUSTICE JACOB said that the statutory demand dated March 11, 1993 was in the sum of £896,887.76. There was no dispute as to the amount owing or that the debt was due immediately. Nor was it in dispute that the debtor was unable to pay the debt immediately.

In December 1992 he made an offer to the creditor to give security over certain shares which he said were not at present realisable but were worth between £4 million and £18 million. He also offered in any event to pay by the end of 1993.

The creditor took the view that it was entitled to immediate payment and did not have to consider that offer. Following the issue of the demand the debtor said he was in a position to show that the creditor was unreasonable in failing to consider his offer, that it was obliged to do so and that, accordingly, the statutory demand ought to be set aside.

The point was argued as one of principle. Could a debtor faced with a statutory demand apply to have it set aside on the ground that he had made an offer of security which the creditor ought reasonably to have accepted? His Lordship had not been asked to consider whether the offer was reasonable.

The relevant provisions so far as material were: sections 267(1); 267(2)(c); 268(1) and (2); 271(1), (2) and (3). That was the relevant primary legislation.

It set up a two-stage process for a bankruptcy petition. There was the statutory demand or failure of execution of a judgment debt either of which established an inability to pay. The next question followed after the petition: should a bankruptcy order in fact be made (section 271)?

The secondary legislation was in the relevant provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986. Rule 6.1 set out some formal requirements of the statutory demand. Form 6.1 was prescribed by rule 12.7.

There were detailed requirements as to what should be in the statutory demand. Then there was a procedure concerned with setting aside a statutory demand. It was the scope of that procedure which was in issue.

Under rule 6.4(1) there was an 18-day period in which the application should be made. The application had to be supported by an affidavit and there was a prescribed form for that called form 6.5.

The procedure prescribed was intended to be brief. It aimed at establishing an inability to pay and no more. It was not a general course sieve where the court considered generally whether the petition would succeed or fail.

The key rule was rule 6.5. Rule 6.5(4)(d) stated: "The court may grant the application if — ... (d) the court is satisfied, on other grounds, that the demand ought to be set aside."

What other grounds could could the court take into account at that stage of the procedure? The question had important practical consequences.

A creditor entitled to immediate payment of a sum of money would be required to consider the security offered. He would very likely have to get involved in his own valuation. There could be a conflict of valuers.

The whole procedure of whether the statutory demand should be set aside or not would turn into an elaborate affair and the presentation of the petition might be considerably delayed.

His Lordship dealt with the debtor's first point based on form 6.1, the form of the statutory demand itself. He said that the argument was that the form contemplated that the debtor might not "quickly receive a satisfactory written reply" and that meant a reply satisfactory to the debtor. So, if the debtor had made an offer to compound, for instance by giving security he could then apply to have the security set aside.

His Lordship did not read the document in that way. The primary requirement was either "pay or settle". The suggestion in the form was no more than that the debtor could apply, indeed had to apply within 18 days of the date of service to have the demand set aside. There was no right vested in the debtor to obtain "a satisfactory written reply".

The second argument was founded on the "other grounds" of rule 6.5(4)(d) in which it was said that those words conferred upon the court a general discretion to consider what might happen if the petition were presented. Putting the point another way, the court should ask the general question: "Is it unjust to allow the creditor to present the petition?"

Reference was made to what was said by Lord Justice Nicholls in *In re a Debtor (No 1 of 1987)* ([1989] 1 WLR 271, 276). In his first paragraph Lord Justice Nicholls had referred to the consequence that the debtor was regarded as being unable to pay the debt in question and then said that that consequence founded the ability of the creditor to present a bankruptcy petition.

In his second paragraph he referred to "residual discretion" and to "circumstances which would make it unjust for the statutory demand to give rise to those consequences in a particular case".

The creditor argued that by the use of the words "those circumstances" Lord Justice Nicholls was intending to indicate a general power of the court to intervene to prevent any injustice.

His Lordship did not consider that Lord Justice Nicholls was considering anything like the question before him. He was not indicating in his use of the expression "residual discretion" at the stage of an application to set aside a statutory demand that the court should in effect conduct a mini-trial into whether or not at a later stage the court would make a bankruptcy order under section 271.

He was referring to whether or not the demand itself produced injustice, which was the point in issue before him. Where the debtor admitted he could not pay, the purpose of the demand was satisfied.

The true view was that rule 6.5(4)(d) was concerned with a case in which a statutory demand ought to be set aside because it was either defective to the point of being unfair to the debtor, as was suggested in Lord Justice Nicholl's case; or if it was shown that, in the case of an immediately payable debt, there was evidence that it would in substance be immediately paid.

His Lordship did not think that Mr Justice Morritt in *In re a Debtor (No 51-SD-1991)* ([1992] 1 WLR 1294, 1301) was saying that any ground which could be used to defeat a petition was a matter which could be raised by the debtor at the statutory demand stage of the process. The reality of the situation he was contemplating was that the debtor could pay. What he said had been inappropriately taken out of its context.

The next point taken by the debtor related to the prescribed form 6.5 of the affidavit in support of an application to set aside the statutory demand. In a side note the debtor was invited to insert one of eight alternatives the fourth of which stated "admit the debt and am prepared to secure or compound for to the creditor's satisfaction by..."

It was said that contemplated a case where the debtor was offering a compounding. The difficulty was that it referred to compounding to the "creditor's satisfaction". While that might constitute a kind of offer to the creditor, it did not seem that the prescribed form was suggesting that there should be an investigation by the court as to whether the offer was or was not reasonable at that stage of the process.

The fourth point argued by the debtor related to section 268(2) in a case where the debt was not immediately payable but there was no reasonable prospect of the debtor being able to pay it.

Then the statutory demand called upon the debtor "to establish to the satisfaction of the creditor that there is a reasonable prospect the debtor will be able to pay the debt when it falls due".

That was said to constitute a reasonable offer by the debtor and if the creditor behaved unreasonably by not accepting it if would be nonsense for the procedure to carry on.

Thus suppose there was a debt due in three months and the debtor was able to provide a banker's draft for the sum payable on the due date. It would be wholly unreasonable for the creditor to say he was not satisfied.

Therefore in section 268(2)(a) the expression "to the satisfaction of the creditor" meant "to the reasonable satisfaction of the creditor" and therefore the same expression in subsection (1) took the same meaning.

Mr Tidmarsh provided the answer to that, arguing, quite rightly, that the only enquiries which the court was called upon to make at the statutory demand stage was whether or not it was shown that the debtor was in the case of section 268(1) "unable to pay a debt" and in section 268(2) "has no reasonable prospect of being able to pay a debt".

The "other ground" of the rule related only to that question and ancillary matters such as whether the demand was fair. Once it was shown or admitted that the debt could not or would not be paid then the case would proceed to the next stage of bankruptcy proceedings.

It was also argued that the rule clearly referred to the case where the creditor already held security and it was illogical that where a creditor held security sufficient for the debt the petition could be set aside but not when the debtor was prepared to offer such security.

There was a world of difference. Bankruptcy was primarily concerned with unsecured debts.

In the case of an unsecured debt the creditor had no security and was not obliged to take the security offered by the debtor however good it might be: see Mr Justice Mummery in *In re a Debtor* (No 960-SD-992) ([1993] STC 218) who clearly considered that an offer of security was not the same as an existing security.

Solicitors: Masons; Solicitor for Inland Revenue.

New procedure for production of time estimates in cases concerning children

Practice Direction (Children cases: Time estimates)

Procedures for the provision of time estimates in children cases were announced in a Practice Direction issued on November 22 by Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, with the concurrence of Lord Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Chancellor.

THE PRESIDENT said:

1 As from the date of the direction, parties to proceedings under the Children Act 1989 or under the inherent jurisdiction of the High Court relating to children, which were pending in the High Court in London and in other centres and which were to be heard by a judge, would be required to provide an estimate of length of the hearing (a time estimate) in accordance with the procedure set out in the following paragraphs. This procedure was intended to enable the court and the parties to be kept fully informed of any changes in time estimates so as to facilitate the listing and disposal of cases in the most effective manner.

2 When any hearing which was expected to last one day or more was fixed, whether upon application or at a directions hearing or on any other occasion, the party applying for the hearing, the applicant, and such other parties as might then be before the court, should give a time estimate.

Unless otherwise directed, that should be in writing and should be signed by the solicitor and by counsel, if instructed. A suitable form would be available from the court.

3 If any party to the proceedings was not before the court when the hearing was fixed, the applicant should serve that party forthwith with a copy of the time estimate.

4 Any party served with a time estimate, should acknowledge receipt and inform the applicant and the court forthwith whether they agreed or disagreed with the estimate and in the latter case, should also give their own time estimate.

5 If at any time after a time estimate had been given, any party considered that the time estimate should be revised, that party should forthwith provide the court with a further time estimate and should serve a copy on the other parties. It was the duty of solicitors to keep counsel informed of the time estimates given in the case and it was the duty of both solicitors and counsel to keep the length of the hearing under review and to inform the court promptly of any change in the time estimate.

6 In cases where a hearing had been fixed for less than a day, if any party considered that it was likely to last for one day or more, then a time estimate should be given by that party to the court and served on the other parties. If an additional application or cross-application was issued returnable on the same date, a further time estimate would only be required if the latest time estimate was affected.

7 A party should provide a time estimate if so required by the court.

8 If, in the light of the information provided, the court considered that further directions were necessary or if any of the parties failed to provide the requisite information, a directions hearing would be fixed and notice of the appointment given to all parties by the court. In the event of a party failing to provide information when requested or if default was otherwise made in the provision of time estimates, liability for any wasted costs might arise for consideration.

9 This direction did not apply to parties in person. Where the applicant was a party in person, the other parties to the proceedings, if represented by a solicitor, had to provide a time estimate to the court immediately upon being notified of the hearing.

10 This direction was not to be read as affecting the right of any party to apply to the court for directions at any time in relation to the listing of any application or for any other purpose.

11 *Practice Direction (Family Division: Hearing Duration)* ([1984] 1 WLR 475) should continue to apply to proceedings other than proceedings under the Children Act 1989 or the inherent jurisdiction of the court relating to children.

Deportation of linked parties

Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Yasim (Mohamed)

Before Mr Justice Popplewell

[Judgment November 23]

Where hearings to consider the deportation of parties whose situations were closely related took place separately and by different tribunals then the outcome in the case of one party was a relevant consideration to be taken into account by the tribunal dealing with the other party.

Mr Justice Popplewell so held in the Queen's Bench Division when granting an application by Mohamed Yasim for *certiorari* to quash the rejection by the Immigration Appeal Tribunal of his appeal against the decision of December 22, 1990 of the Secretary of State for the Home Department to deport him.

Mr Ian MacDonald, QC, for the applicant; Miss Clare Montgomery for the tribunal.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL said that in 1985 the applicant, who held Pakistani citizenship but had become settled in the United Kingdom within the meaning of the Immigration Act 1971, had been convicted of supplying heroin and had been sentenced to four years imprisonment.

His brother, who had been the ringleader, was sentenced to five years and they were both served with a notice of the intention to deport. Their appeals to the Immigration Appeal Tribunal were due to be heard on June 12, 1990 but for reasons which were unclear the applicant's hearing was adjourned.

His brother's appeal was allowed on the ground that while it was in the public interest that he should be deported, compassionate grounds, a pregnant girlfriend who would be unable to go with him to Pakistan, offset the offence of supplying heroin.

On September 28 the applicant's appeal was dismissed, the tribunal being unaware of the decision in the brother's case, and an order for his deportation was issued.

Mr MacDonald had asserted that there was a duty on the tribunal to raise the matter of the result in the brother's case by any one of a number of means available to it.

His Lordship rejected that. The tribunal was required to reach its decision in conformity with certain principles as set out in the Statement of Changes in the Immigration Rules (1983) (HC 169) and (1990) (HC 251).

Miss Montgomery had submitted that the consistency required by the rules was that a consistency of principles applied. That was so but it was not only consistency in principle that was required. The tribunal was entitled to take into account how one co-accused had been dealt with.

It might well decide that that had no impact but it was difficult to believe that if the tribunal had known about the brother in this case that it would not have taken it into some account.

Had the tribunal said that it would not take it into account at all then it would not have been exercising its jurisdiction under the rules. There was no doubt that it was a material consideration to be taken account of.

His Lordship ordered the decision to quashed and remitted to the tribunal to consider the additional fact of the brother's case. His Lordship emphasised that that was not an invitation to reopen the whole case but solely to look at the situation as it existed at the time of the decision to deport.

Solicitors: B. M. Birnberg & Co, Lambeth; Treasury Solicitor.

Provisions for transfer of adoption proceedings

Practice Direction (Inter-country adoptions: Transfer of proceedings)

The following Practice Direction was issued on November 23 by Senior District Judge Gerald Angel, with the approval of Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, and the concurrence of the Lord Chancellor:

In proceedings in a county court under the Adoption Act 1976 concerning a child whose place of origin was outside the United Kingdom, the question of transfer of the case to the High Court might arise.

In deciding whether, under the Children (Allocation of Proceedings) Order (SI 1991 No 1677), such proceedings were appropriate for determination in the High Court, guidance might continue to be derived from the decision of the Court of Appeal in *In re N and L (Minors) (Adoption Proceedings: Venue)* ([1987] 1 WLR 829) that transfer should be limited to those cases giving rise to issues of complexity, difficulty or gravity.

Orders for transfer should not be made of the court's own motion without the parties and the guardian *ad litem*, if appointed, having the opportunity of making representations on the question of transfer.

It would usually be possible for the necessary enquiries to be made by letter and for the matter to be determined without a hearing.

In those cases where there was an issue as to transfer, a hearing for determination of the issue should be fixed, with notice of the date, time and place of hearing given to the parties and the guardian *ad litem*.

It would usually be impracticable to obtain the views of the natural parents or for them to be given notice of any hearing.

Concealment suspends limitation time

Sheldon and Others v R. H. M. Outhwaite (Underwriting Agencies) Ltd

Before Mr Justice Saville

[Judgment October 20]

A deliberate concealment could have the effect of preventing the limitation period from running, as provided under section 32 of the Limitation Act 1980, even when it occurred after the plaintiff's cause of action arose.

Mr Justice Saville so held in the Queen's Bench Division when giving judgment in open court after a hearing in chambers whereby, on an application by the defendants, R. H. M. Outhwaite (Underwriting Agencies) Ltd and various members' agents, he refused to strike out a point of reply based on section 32 raised by the plaintiffs, John Brooke Sheldon and other underwriting members of Lloyd's syndicates 317 and 661, to the defendants' plea of limitation.

Section 32 of the 1980 Act provides: "(1) ... where in the case of any action for which a period of limitation is prescribed by this Act ... (b) any fact relevant to the plaintiff's right of action has been deliberately concealed from him by the defendant: ... the period of limitation shall not begin to run until the plaintiff has discovered the ... concealment ... or could with reasonable diligence have discovered it."

Miss Barbara Dohmann, QC and Mr Thomas Beazley for the plaintiff; Mr Ian Hunter, QC and Mr Colin Edelman for Outhwaite; Mr Ian Hunter, QC and Mr Jeffrey Gruder for the members' agents.

MR JUSTICE SAVILLE said that he rejected the defendant's submission that section 32 of the Act applied only to a deliberate concealment that occurred at the time when the claimant's cause of action arose and not to any later concealment.

In the first place it was common ground that the expression "deliberately concealed" in section 32 was used in place of the expression "concealed by fraud" found in the Limitation Act 1939, because the case law had made clear that "fraud" in fact encompassed any conduct which could be categorised as unconscionable and which had the effect of concealing the right of action of the plaintiff.

It was clear that the Court of Appeal had proceeded at least upon the assumption that unconscionable conduct after the wrongdoing giving rise to right of action could fall within the "concealed by fraud" provisions of the 1939 Act.

Furthermore, it seemed that *Kitchen v RAF Association* ([1958] 1 WLR 563) was an example of a case where subsequent concealment was actually held to preclude reliance on limitation.

The "concealed by fraud" provisions were designed to reflect the pre-existing principles of equity which in turn did apply to cases where subsequent conduct concealed the plaintiff's rights: see *Bulli Coal Mining v Osborne* ([1899] AC 351, 363).

In the second place, there was nothing to suggest that the 1980 Act was designed to cut down, as opposed to clarify, the previous width of what was now described as deliberate concealment.

In the third place was the analysis of the words used in section 32.

If there was a wrongdoing followed by deliberate concealment the ordinary time limit was extended or excluded so that the period ran from the date when the concealment was or ought to have been discovered.

Mr Hunter submitted that that would involve the proposition that at any time, at least up to the expiry of the ordinary limitation period, a deliberate concealment would mean that the time would start again and run for the full period from when the concealment was or ought to have been discovered.

That was so but was neither surprising nor unacceptable. Deliberate concealment could only operate in cases where the plaintiff was unaware of the facts in question relevant to the right of action otherwise there could be no concealment.

In such cases, at any time up to the expiry of the ordinary period, unconscionable behaviour concealing those facts would have the effect of precluding or at least discouraging the plaintiff from pursuing an existing right of action. In other words, as time went by the mischief which equity and now the statute sought to remedy did not reduce.

As to a case where the concealment occurred after the ordinary period had expired, that deliberate concealment could not be called in aid at least so as to enable the plaintiff to mount an effective action since by that stage the plaintiff had already lost the remedy of the right to sue so that the concealment had no deleterious effect and was thus hardly unconscionable.

Finally, the so-called general principle that once time started to run it ran without interruption was not of any assistance. Reliance on such a principle came close to begging the question.

For those reasons, his Lordship had to disagree with the contrary view expressed *obiter* by Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor, in *Tito v Waddell (No 2)* ([1977] Ch 106, 245).

Solicitors: Norton Rose; Denton Hall; Oswald Hickson Collier & Co.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

To EMANUEL POPAT of 1 CRANBROOK ROAD, ILFORD, ESSEX IG1 1BU

TAKE NOTICE that a Statutory Demand has been issued by STEPHEN DANSO of UNIT 6, BLOCK D1, KENTISH TOWN BUSINESS PARK, REGIS ROAD, LONDON NW5. The creditor demands payment of £11,020.00, full particulars of which are set out in the Statutory Demand.

The Statutory Demand is an important document and it is directed to have been served on you on the date of appearance of this advertisement. You must deal with this demand within 21 days of the service upon you or you could be made bankrupt and your property and goods taken as my from you. If you are in any doubt as to your position, seek advice IMMEDIATELY from a Solicitor or Citizen's Advice Bureau. The statutory demand can be obtained from and is available for inspection and collection from, ALSOP WILKINSON, 1 Duke Yard, Bury, Lancashire BL9 0HH (Solicitors for the Creditor)

YOU HAVE ONLY 18 DAYS TO HAVE THE STATUTORY DEMAND SET ASIDE. YOU HAVE ONLY 21 DAYS BEFORE THE CREDITOR MAY PRESENT A BANKRUPTCY PETITION

The room to make an application to set aside the Statutory Demand is the Romford County Court, located at 24 Oaklands Avenue, Romford, Essex RM1 3DP

ALLIANCE OF INTERNATIONAL RECORDING STUDIOS LIMITED - IN LIQUIDATION

Take notice that the undersigned ALAN DAVID KENNINGHAM and PHILLIP ANTONY ROBERTS of Haines Watts, 4-8 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4LU, were appointed Joint Liquidators of ALLIANCE OF INTERNATIONAL RECORDING STUDIOS LIMITED, by a resolution of a meeting of the company's creditors held on the 16th day of November 1993.

A D KENNINGHAM
Joint Liquidator
P A ROBERTS
Joint Liquidator
Dated this 30th day of November 1993

DIRECT COPY SERVICE LIMITED - IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the creditors of the above company in accordance with the provisions of Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at Thames Court 1 Victoria Street, Windsor, Berkshire on Friday 10 December 1993 at 10.00am. The purpose of the meeting are to receive a statement of affairs and a report on the company from a director and if the creditors wish to do so, to nominate a liquidator and appoint a liquidation committee.

A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection at the offices of Price Waterhouse at Thames Court, 1 Victoria Street, Windsor, Berkshire on Wednesday 8 December 1993 and Thursday 9 December 1993.

Proxies for use at the meeting must be returned to Price and Waterhouse, Thames Court, 1 Victoria Street, Berkshire SL4 1HB by 12.00pm Thursday 9 December 1993 and claims must be made in writing and may be made to the same address.

By order of the Board
Peter Bate
Secretary
Direct Copy Service Limited
2 December 1993

INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
SENLAC METAL CASEMENTS LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 3.9 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 at a Meeting of the Creditors of Senlac Metal Casements Limited will be held at Bridge Gate, 55-57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 1RX on Wednesday 8th December 1993 at 10.30 am. The Joint Administrative Receivers Report will be presented to the meeting and the opportunity given to elect a committee to represent the creditors.

A creditor will be entitled to vote at the meeting only if details of the debt claimed to be due to him by the company have been given to the Administrative Receiver at Bridge Gate, 55-57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 1RX no later than 12 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting and the claims be admitted in accordance with the Insolvency Rules 1986.

Creditors may vote either in person or by proxy and a proxy should be lodged with the administrative Receivers if possible before the meeting. A secured creditor is entitled to vote only in respect of the balance of any of his debt after deducting the value of his security as estimated by him. Creditors who are wholly secured are not entitled to be represented or to vote.

Dated this first day of December 1993
M D Gercke
Joint Administrative Receiver

IN THE MANCHESTER COUNTY COURT
Case No 93 JS 1445

To: Mark Grainger (now known as Charles Lombard)

TAKE NOTICE that an action has been commenced against you in the above Court by Elayne Grainger (now known as Elayne Lombard) of 8 Lynwood off Rainow Road, Hale, Cheshire for Judicial Separation Proceedings together with an Application for Ancillary Relief and an Order has been made that the publication of a notice of the entry of such action in 'The Times' newspaper shall be deemed to be good and sufficient service of all documents required to be served on you in these proceedings.

The action will be heard at Manchester County Court, Crown Square, Manchester on Tuesday 18th January 1994 at 12.00 noon, on which day you are to appear, and if you do not appear, either in person or by your solicitor at the time and place above mentioned, such Order will be made as the Court thinks just.

Copies of the relevant documents may be obtained from Kuit Steinart Levy & Co, of 3, St Mary's Parsonage, Manchester, M3 2RD

Dated the 8th day of December 1993.

Kuit, Steinart Levy & Co
3, St.Mary's Parsonage
Manchester
M3 2RD
Solicitors for the Petitioner

LEGAL NOTICES

MAYFLOWER RECORDING STUDIOS LIMITED - IN LIQUIDATION

Take notice that the undersigned, ALAN DAVID KENNINGHAM & PHILIP ANTHONY ROBERTS of HAINES Watts 3-8 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4LL, were appointed Joint Liquidators of MAYFLOWER RECORDING STUDIOS LIMITED, by a resolution of meeting of the company's creditors held on the 16th day of November 1993.

A D KENNINGHAM
Joint Liquidator
P A ROBERTS
Joint Liquidator
Dated this 30th day of November 1993

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER

Park Place Credit Limited
Registered number: 01552849
Former company name(s): N/A
Trading name(s): Park Place Credit Limited
Nature of business: Finance and management of Hire Purchase agreements
Trade classification: 58
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 2 December 1993
Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: NM Rothschild and Sons Limited
Administrative Receiver(s)/Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos): M D Gercke 2360 & A J Barrett 1095
Address(es): Price Waterhouse, Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 1RX

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER

Park Place Leasing Limited
Registered number: 01338681
Former company name(s): N/A
Trading name(s): Park Place Leasing Limited
Nature of business: Finance and management of hire purchase agreements
Trade classification: 58
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 2 December 1993
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): NM Rothschild and Sons Limited
Administrative Receiver(s)/Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos): M D Gercke 2360 & A J Barrett 1095
Address(es): Price Waterhouse, Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
BALLACATERING LIMITED
Registered Number: 2842a
Nature of Business: PROPERTY AND CONSULTANCY COMPANY
Trade classification: 8
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 26 November 1993
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): The Royal Bank of Scotland
Names of Person(s) Appointed: Anthony John Patrick Brereton, Office Holder No 5884 and Ian Clifford Powell, Office Holder No. 7882
Address: York House York Street, Manchester M2 4WS

Park Place Finance Limited
Registered number: 01773876
Former Company name(s): N/A
Trading name(s): Park Place Finance Limited
Nature of business: Acts as a holding company.
Trade classification: 58
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 2 December 1993
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): NM Rothschilds and Sons Limited
Administrative Receiver/Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos): M D Gercke & A J Barrett 1095
Address(es): Price Waterhouse, Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX

Profile Recruitment Limited
Company Number: 2485491
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at Barratt House, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5HD, on 17 December 1993 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act, the appointment of a Liquidator and a Liquidation Committee.

Mr D B Coakley of Leach Brightt & Partners, Barratt House, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5HH is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the company and will furnish creditors with information concerning the company's affairs as is reasonably required.

Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged with the company's registered office at Leach Bright & Partners, Barratt House, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5HH not later than 12 noon on 16 December 1993.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
T M Michaux
Director
Date: 2 December 1993

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
FIRST EUROPEAN AIRWAYS LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named company will be held at 11.00 am on 17th December 1993 at the offices of Theodore Goddard, 150 Aldersgate Street, London EC1A 4EJ for the purposes mentioned in sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors may be inspected free of charge at the Firm Associates, Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, London EC4Y 0DT, between 10 am and 5 pm on 15th and 16th December 1993.

DATED this 2nd day of December 1993

By order of the Board
V Sheppard
Director

Whitton Surface Dynamics Limited
Registered Number: 888721
Nature of Business: Other Services
Trade Classification: 8999
Date of Appointment of Administrative Receiver(s): 25 November 1993
Name of person appointing the Administrative Receiver(s): Fennoscandia Bank Limited
Names and person(s) appointed: S V Freakley AND L A Manning both of Butcher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF (Office Holder Nos. 8291 AND 6477)

LEGAL NOTICES

SHORELINE HOLDINGS LIMITED
SHOPELINE BLASTING LIMITED
SHORELINE MARINE LIMITED
SHORETOOL & PLANT HIRE LIMITED
(ALL IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that meetings of the creditors of the above named companies will be held at 20 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BH on 14 December 1993 at 10.00am for the purposes mentioned in Section 48 and 49 of the said Act.

A creditor is entitled to vote at these meetings only if

a) he has forwarded to the Joint Administrative Receivers, J R Hill and R G Mullins at RSM Binder Hamlyn 20 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BH not later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the meetings, details in writing of the debt that he claims to be due to him from the above companies, and the claim has been duly admitted for the purpose of entitlement to vote, and

b) there has been lodged with the Joint Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.

Unsecured creditors may obtain, free of charge, a copy of the Joint Administrative Receivers' report by writing to J R Hill at RSM Binder Hamlyn at the above address quoting reference JGC/80.

J R HILL
Joint Administrative Receiver

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 RULE 4.106(1)
P FRANKLIN (GROUNDWORKS) LIMITED
In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that I, Dermot Brendan Coakley, Chartered Accountant, of Leach Bright and Partners, Barratt House, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5HD, was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 30th November 1993.

All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to me at the above address.

No further notice or advertisement to prove debts will be given.

Date 1 December 1993
D B Coakley
Liquidator

Whitton Finance Limited
Registered Number: 2578626
Nature of Business: Other Services
Trade Classification: 8999
Date of Appointment of Administrative Receiver(s): 25 November 1993
Name of person appointing the Administrative Receiver: Fennoscandia Bank Limited
Names of person appointed: S V Freakley AND L A Manning both of Butcher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF (Office Holder Nos: 8291 AND 6477)



ROCK page 34

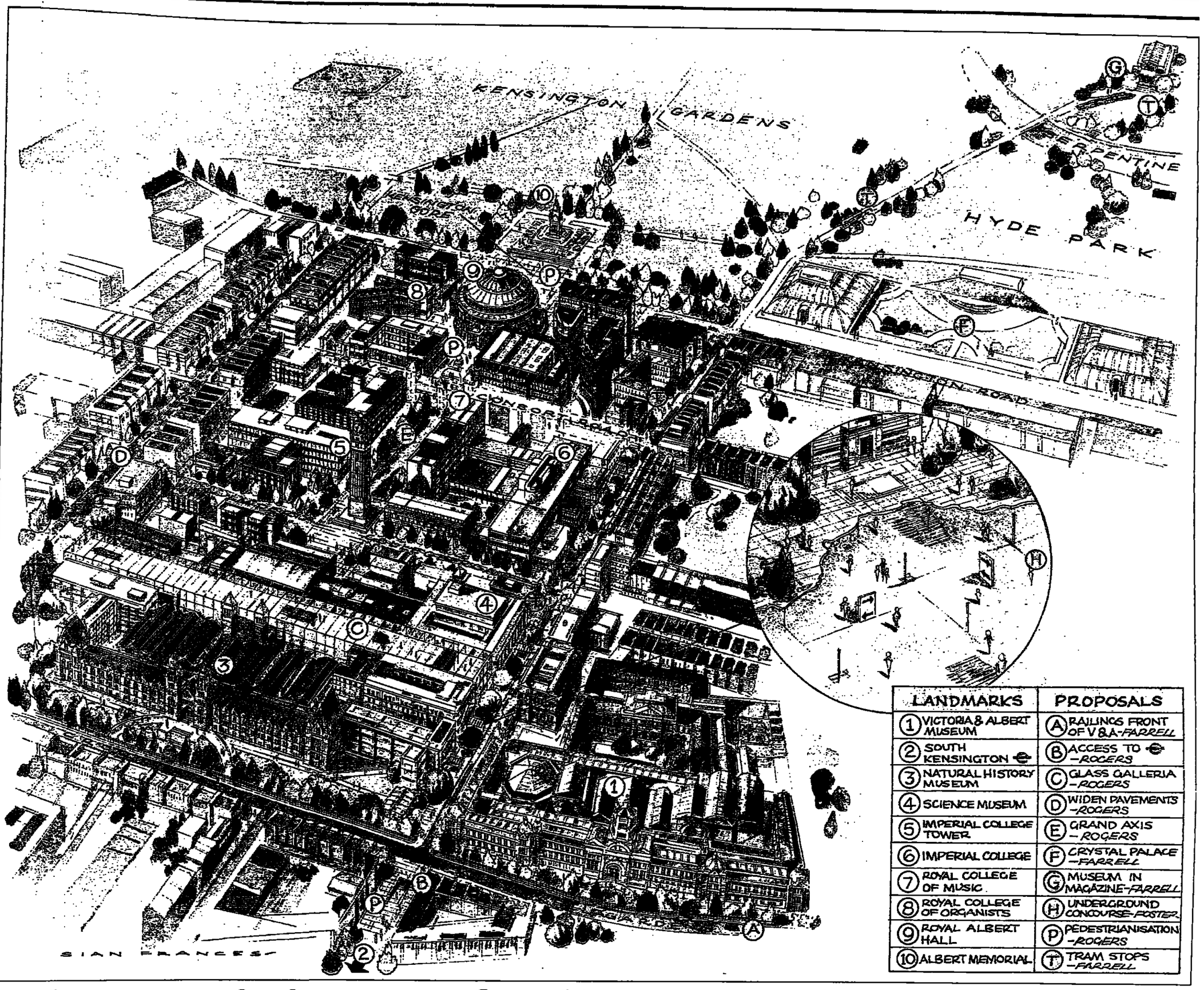
Wet Wet Wet want to be treated as adults — but they don't know how to behave like them

ARTS

THEATRE page 35

Ellie Haddington wins acclaim in the title role of Brecht's Mother Courage at the National





Three visions of Albertopolis

The museum area of South Kensington could one day mirror the Prince Consort's plans, filtered through the imaginations of present-day Britain's finest architects. Marcus Binney reports

Sir Norman Foster, Sir Richard Rogers and Terry Farrell — the three big personalities of British architecture — recently competed for one of London's prize commissions. This was the opportunity to lead a £100 million bid to the Millennium Fund aimed at bringing the whole South Kensington museum area — from the Victoria & Albert to the Albert Hall — dramatically to life.

Foster won. But at the first glimpse of his plans, the two councils, Westminster and Kensington, went ballistic. Westminster's hastily issued new planning brief says: "The architect's draft proposals to divert traffic, close roads, reorganise parking, are matters of great concern . . . proposals which significantly worsen [traffic] movement or residential amenity will not be supported."

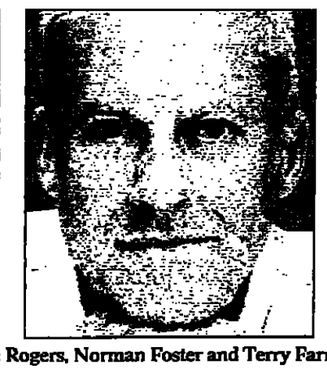
But what Farrell, Foster and Rogers have done is to float a whole range of provocative ideas aimed at reversing the steady erosion of Prince Albert's grand vision for the site. They deserve serious debate.

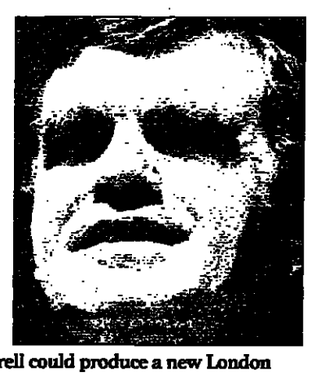
Albertopolis is so named because the whole site was bought out of the profits of Prince Albert's brainchild, the 1851 Exhibition, which, thanks to Joseph Paxton's Crystal Palace, was a national sensation. Albert's grand mix of institutions — the museums, the colleges and the Albert Hall — has thrived. But his vision of a great open garden in the centre of the site, linking Cromwell Road and Kensington Gardens, has been lost as the institutions have seized every scrap of space for huts, extensions and staff car parking.

Now Neil Cossons, director of the Science Museum, has brought all the institutions together into a consortium to bid for Millennium funds, against the Royal Opera House, the South Bank and the Tate Gallery's proposed museum of modern art.

"Between now and 2000", Cossons says, "the members of the consortium will spend £150 million on their buildings, but none of us has any responsibility for the spaces in between." With the promise in the Budget of £11 million for the restoration of the Albert Memorial, Albertopolis is off to a flying start.







The plans of (from left) Richard Rogers, Norman Foster and Terry Farrell could produce a new London

Rogers, inevitably, produced the most dramatic schemes. A vast piazza several times the length of St Mark's Square in Venice would run from the Natural History Museum to the Albert Hall, knocking down the Royal College of Music and most of Imperial College in the process. "This great axis", he now acknowledges ruefully, "is an utterly lost cause."

Instead, he has come up with revolutionary ideas for other spaces. His starting-point is the creation of a large pedestrian square linking the Albert Hall and the Albert Memorial, with the park railings pushed back behind the memorial.

His next grand gesture would be to close Exhibition Road to traffic. "It has to be done," he says. Traffic would be diverted up Queen's Gate. Rogers's sweetener to potentially outraged residents would be to put all car parking in Queen's Gate under the street ("they do it every day in Paris").

Rogers would also close Prince Consort Road, which runs across the site below Albert Hall. Philip Gumuchdjian, his project architect, says: "It's an absurdly wide, little-used expanse of tarmac, tempting people to drive at 50 mph." Gumuchdjian would pave it and plant it with trees, providing Imperial College with a much-needed campus, and concert-goers with a promenade garden. "The Royal College of Music could at last open its windows, and music would fill the street," Gumuchdjian says.

But Rogers's neatest idea is to build, in stages, a great Milan-style galleria behind the Natural History Museum. It would link Exhibition Road and Queen's Gate, and provide Kensington residents with a new "front door" into the whole museum complex. Here would be a huge space for giant exhibits, as well as shops and cafés. At present, the only sign of free enterprise in the whole area is a lone ice cream van.

Farrell takes an opposite approach. "There's no need for gimmicks, fantasy or over-the-top gestures," he says. "I'm for investing in our existing *grands projets*, albeit Victorian ones, rather than a series of French-style extravaganzas that nobody can afford to look after."

Like Rogers, Farrell sees the key as Exhibition Road. Instead of closing it, he would narrow it from seven to two lanes, with occasional drop-off points. This would provide broad Champs-Elysées pavements where Farrell would set kiosks and pavilions housing cafés and bringing light into what Cossons calls "the dreadful lavatorial pedestrian tunnel from the Tube".

Farrell would also open up a public walk through the gardens in the Natural History Museum and erect railings on the wide pavement in front of the V&A. "Not to keep pedestrians out", he explains, "but to shelter them from the traffic pounding into Knightsbridge."

Farrell has been closely involved in the Royal Parks review, and one of his best ideas is to run a regular mini-train or tram from the museums across the Serpentine to Paddington station. On the way, the handsome Regency powder magazine in Hyde Park, scandalously padlocked for decades, would open as a new gallery. "Another idea", he says, "is to recreate the outline of the Crystal Palace in a new garden layout, with glasshouses at either end."

Foster's trump card proved to be the fact that he is already preparing a masterplan for Imperial College. His scheme, still in embryo form, is to create a new level of lawns and gardens above the depressing sea of parked cars. This will provide attractive protected spaces for students, with the possibility that the car parking could be used for Albert Hall concert-goers in the evenings and museum visitors at weekends.

After the initial salvo from Westminster, it is unlikely that Foster will pursue the complete closure of Exhibition Road. What is likely is a spacious concourse beneath the road, linking the museums on either side. He is also pursuing the possibility of dropping the traffic along Kensington Gore beneath a new piazza in front of the Albert Hall. "Foster has shown that the road doesn't need to rise to the west, as there is a gentle drop towards Kensington," Cossons says. Spencer de Grey, Foster's partner, explains: "Underpasses no longer have to be bare concrete walls. By sloping the sides, and introducing ledges to catch water, you can entirely cover them with grass."

The strength of Foster's plan is likely to be the way it throws all the major historic buildings into sharper focus, by cleaning, floodlighting and generous paving. De Grey also places welcome emphasis on keeping the grand entrances of the V&A and the Natural History Museum as the main approaches.

"At present, people walk up the carriage ramps to the Natural History Museum," he says. "Why not open up the main gates, clear away the staff cars and let them walk up the main steps?"

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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

IN PRAISE OF WOMEN: A celebratory recital by Elizabeth Connell, soprano, includes songs from Honegger, Fauré, Caminade, Alma and Gustav Mahler, Clara and Robert Schumann, Brahms, Wolf, Strauss and Teresa del Riego. With Eugene Asti, piano
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (071-935 2141) Tonight, 7.30pm.

PIAF: First night of previews for Elaine Paige as the great French chanteuse. Peter Hall directs Pam Gem's rollercoaster ride portrait.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (071-867 1118). Previews begin tonight, 8pm. Opens Dec 13, 7pm.

NUTCRACKER: An alternative, "send up" *Nutcracker*, courtesy of Adventures in Motion Pictures. Choreographer Matthew Bourne has updated each scene to embrace modern tastes with a little nod to Busby Berkeley along the way and it's good fun all around.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-278 8916). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm.

WILDEST DREAMS: Another first night of previews, this for Alan Ayckbourn's first play at the RSC, a happy band of fantasy-game addicts get a scarier time than they bargained for.
Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm. Opens Dec 14. Then in repertoire.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: The young American violinist Joshua Bell joins Hugh Wolff and the **CBSO** for a performance of Walton's Violin Concerto. Also on offer is Mendelssohn's Symphony No 3 (*Scottish*) and Respighi's *The Birds*
Symphony Hall, Broad Street, Birmingham (021-212 3333). Tonight, 7.30pm. Free talk on Walton 6.15pm.

MANCHESTER: Claire Gibault conducts the **Hallé Orchestra** in a sparkling evening of fairytales and witty narratives. Dukas (*The Sorcerer's Apprentice*); Saint-Saëns (*The Carnival of the Animals*); Ravel (*Suite, Mother Goose*); and Bizet (Symphony in C). With John Leslie as the guest narrator.
Free Trade Hall, Peter Street, (061-834 1712). Tonight, 7.30pm.

NORTHAMPTON: An opportunity to see one of Russia's major ballet companies, **The State Tchaikovsky Ballet of Russia**. In this year of centenary celebrations and because it was founded in the composer's home city of Perm, the company fittingly presents *The Nutcracker*
Derngate, Guildhall Road (0604 24811). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2pm.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS: What more pleasant way to spend a long lunch than to listen to pianist **Frederick Kempf**, the 1992 BBC Young Musician of the Year, in recital. His chosen programme includes Beethoven (Sonata in C minor Op 111); Schumann (Toccata in C Op 7); and Debussy (*Estampes*).
Trinity Theatre and Arts Centre, Church Road (0892 544699). Today, 1.05pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Alphonse Mucha/Bill Brandt (071-638 4141) . . . **British Museum:** Deities and Devotions: Hindu art; Demon of Painting, Kawanabe Kyosai (071-636 1555) . . . **Festival Hall:** Bruce Chatwin's Photographs (071-928 3002) . . . **National Portrait Gallery:** The Portrait Now; Thomas Eakins (071-306 0055) . . . **National Gallery:** The Wilton Diptych (071-839 3321) . . . **Royal Academy of Arts:** Drawings from the J Paul Getty Museum; American Art in the 20th Century (071-439 7438) . . . **Serpentine:** Richard Wentworth (071-402 6075) . . . **Tate:** ; Ben Nicholson/Turner's Vignettes (071-887 8008) . . . **V & A:** Gates of Mystery: Russian icons; 150 Years of the Christmas Card (071-938 8500).

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

■ **THE ABSENCE OF WAR:** John Thaw stars in David Hare's study of the Labour Party. Brilliant, necessary, or unfair, depending on your point of view.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Dec 14, 7.15pm, mats Sat and Tues, 2pm.

◪ **CAROUSEL:** Tuneful and cleverly set Rodgers and Hammerstein has the familiar mixture of the perceptive and the maudlin.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm 165mins.

☐ **CELESTINA:** Actors Touring Company present this 1499 classic, as familiar in Spain as *Hamlet* over here, with Ann Firbank as the old bawd.
Lyric Studio, King St, Hammersmith, W6 (081 741 2311). Tonight-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat 4.30pm Till December 11.

☐ **THE GREAT HIGHWAY:** Strindberg's last play, a kaleidoscopic work in many styles, harking forward to Beckett and the Theatre of the Absurd.
Gate, 11 Pembridge Rd, W11 (071-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Till Jan 8.

☐ **HAMMETT'S APPRENTICE:** New Kevin Hood play explores a family's relationship with its past, using the historical figure of James Hammett, one of the Tolpuddle Martyrs.
Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 2554). Wed-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat 3.30pm. Final week.

☐ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS:** Stephen Daldry's marvellously re-imagined version of Priestley's social thriller
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404) Mon-Fri, 7.45pm; Sat, 5pm and 8.15pm; mat Wed, 2.30pm.

☐ **LOOKING THROUGH A GLASS ONION:** John Waters stars in his own musical tribute to John Lennon, and comes remarkably close to conveying his mysterious, if chaotic, charm.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488) Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri, Sat, 6pm and 9pm.

◪ **ME AND MAMIE O'ROURKE:** Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders together in a new offbeat comedy by the author of the film *Beaches*.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Tonight, 8pm. Opens Dec 15, 7pm.

◪ **MEDEA:** Jonathan Kent directs the magnificent Diana Rigg in Euripides's tragedy of a woman's revenge.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm; mats Thurs 3pm, Sat 5.30pm.

◪ **OLEANNA:** Power, politics and punishment at an American university. Great performances by David Suchet and Lia Williams in Mamet's play.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

◪ **ONE MAN:** Electrifying performances by Steven Berkoff in three solo pieces: Poe's *Telltale Heart*, *Actor*, and his hilarious, chilling *Dog*.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5040). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

☐ **RELATIVE VALUES:** Susan Hampshire, Sara Crowe and Alison Fiske head a strong cast in Coward's snobbish but clever comedy. Tim Luscombe directs.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (071-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

■ **THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES:** Opening night for Ian McDiarmid as Arnolphe and Emma Fielding as his ward Agnes, heading a strong cast in Molière's affecting comedy.
Almeida, Almeida St, N1 (071-359 4404). Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm. Till January 22.

◪ **SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER:** Peter Hall's revival of the evergreen Goldsmith comedy.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

☐ **STUFFED AND MOUNTED:** Only four more days of Kit and the Widow's very clever cabaret and sauce:
Lyric, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (081-741 2311). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 4pm

☐ **VITA AND VIRGINIA:** Eileen Atkins' play based on Virginia Woolf's crush on Vita Sackville-West, with herself and Penelope Wilton
Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (071-836 6111). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat, Sun 3.30pm.

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (071-867 1044) . . . ◪ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ◪ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) . . ◪ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) . . . ◪ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) . . . ◪ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) . . . ■ **Grease:** Dominion (071-580 8845) . . . ■ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat:** Palladium (071-494 5037) . . . ◪ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ◪ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) . . . ☐ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . ◪ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ◪ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi Theatre (071-344 0055) . . . ☐ **Travels With My Aunt:** Whitehall (071-867 1119) . . . ◪ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ♦) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

BOUND & GAGGED: A LOVE STORY (18) Muddled comic adventures in search of the characters' better selves. American independent misfire from writer-director Daniel Appleby.
Metro (071-437 0757) **MGM Piccadilly** (071-437 3561)

THE HAWK (15): Is Helen Mirren's husband Lancashire's serial killer? Modest but powerful domestic thriller, from Peter Ransley's novel. David Hayman directs.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343)

LAST YEAR IN MARIENBAD: Welcome revival of Resnais' exquisitely photographed, dream-like conundrum of 1961, double-billed with *Hiroshima Mon Amour*. Until Dec 11.
Everyman ◪ (071-435 1525)

CURRENT

♦ **ALADDIN** (U): Disney's brash Arabian cartoon does not match expectations, though Robin Williams' Genie is fun.
Barbican ◪ (071-638 8891) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

♦ **DAVE** (15): The US President's lookalike takes over. Beguiling comic fantasy, with Kevin Kline and Sigourney Weaver. Ivan Reitman directs.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343)

♦ **DEMOLITION MAN** (15): Sylvester Stallone versus Wesley Snipes in a politically correct 21st century L.A. Overblown action romp with satirical touches. Director, Marco Brambilla.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** ◪ (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343)

♦ **GUILTY AS SIN** (15): D.A. Rebecca De Mornay falls under the spell of ladykiller Don Johnson. Foolish thriller, minus thrills. Director, Sidney Lumet.
Odeon Kensington (0426-914 666)

♦ **THE MAN WITHOUT A FACE** (12): Scarred recluse tutors a young outcast (Nick Stahl). Queasy drama from director-star Mel Gibson.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

MR WONDERFUL (12): Electrical worker Mat Dillon tries to find his ex-wife a new man. Disarming candyfloss from director Anthony Minghella; with Annabella Sciorra.
MGM Haymarket (071-839 1527) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098)

NAKED (18): Mike Leigh's excellent, uncomfortable Cannes prizewinner about London's lost souls, with David Thewlis as the amoral drifter.
MGMs: Haymarket (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (071-727 6705)

♦ **THE PIANO** (15): Jane Campion's magnificent tale of repression and desire in mid-19th century New Zealand. With Holly Hunter, Sam Neill, Harvey Keitel.
Gate ◪ (071-727 4043) **Lumière** (071-836 0691) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Baker** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (071-435 3366) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

THE REMAINS OF THE DAY (U): Life and lost chances of an English butler. Merchant Ivory's coldly glamorous account of Kazuo Ishiguro's novel with Anthony Hopkins, Emma Thompson.
Curzons: Mayfair (071-465 8865) **West End** (071-439 4805) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057)

♦ **THE SECRET GARDEN** (U): Polished version of Frances Hodgson Burnett's classic; a confident mainstream debut for director Agnieszka Holland. With Kate Maberly, Maggie Smith and John Lynch.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Minema** (071-235 4225) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343)

♦ **SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE** (PG): Meg Ryan makes a long-distance play for widower Tom Hanks. Smart but indulgent romantic comedy. Writer-director Nora Ephron
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0426 915353) **Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098)

ROCK CONCERT: **Paul Sexton** sees Scotland's gift to blue-eyed soul sell themselves short

Too big for their own good

Wet Wet Wet
Wembley Arena

BRITAIN's most crassly named chart regulars came to this focal point of their current tour on a high. Dismissed many times as pop featherweights, they have completed six-and-a-half years of hits to release a best-of album that sits snugly in the Top Ten again this week and of which the Scottish quartet was proud to announce platinum sales.

But the title of the retrospective, *End of Part One*, and the fact that these dates are billed as a greatest hits tour, suggest that Wet Wet Wet have reached a career crossroads. One path, clearly marked for a short distance, leads to further adulation from their predominantly teens-and-young-twenties audience. The road less travelled might just have an improved credibility rating at the end of it. Certainly the night's one new song, "Julia Says", performed as an encore, hinted that the Wetties, to use the wretched vernacular, have a more mature songwriting style trying to break through to the surface. Usually, it lost out to their throwaway pop persona and a surprisingly lacklustre performance.

Such is the focus on lead singer Marti Pellow that his three colleagues, and three further horn players, remained almost wholly anonymous throughout. The problem there is that Pellow's good looks alone cannot sustain the show and he is sadly lacking in stage presence: can't dance, can sing a little, but he treated most of the show almost as a soundcheck, often sounding bored with the material and rarely injecting any life into routine run-throughs of the band's considerable hit catalogue.

Certainly the crowd screamed at "Sweet Little Mystery", "Angel Eyes", "Temptation" and the rest. But the relatively small extra effort needed to turn the spark to a flame never happened, and the set suffered from poor pacing. The mood of the most spirited performance, on the funky "Lip Service", was dampened to drowning point by Pellow's departure for a costume change and a dismal rendition of "We Can Work It Out", with bassist Graeme Clark filling in, to put it kindly, on vocals.

They showed a worrying tendency to sound like first-round losers on *New Faces* with other cheap and nasty covers such as "Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now" and the fishiest kind of cod-reggae on Bob Marley's "Is This Love", bland enough to make UB40 sound Jamaican. Perhaps that crossroads needs a third fork, the one back to performance school.

JULIAN HERBERT



Wet Wet Wet's Marti Pellow gives the people what he thinks they want

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WHILE the London orchestral funding fiasco has been unfolding before our disbelieving eyes, the Royal Philharmonic has been busy forging valuable links with the Kirov Opera and its artistic director Valery Gergiev. The plan is for re-runs of the St Petersburg White Nights Festival series with the RPO in London, concert performances of rare operas (Rimsky's *Kitezh* is promised), and the introduction of little-known Russian composers and soloists. If the concert performance of *Iolanta* that launched the collaboration on Monday is anything to go by, we are in for untold riches.

OPERA: A new collaboration with the Kirov

Striking a rich note

Iolanta
Albert Hall

Admirers of Tchaikovsky's last opera, the one-acter composed to share a double-bill with *Nutcracker* in 1892, have in the past had to be a little defensive about it: it does not always come off in performance. No need for sheepishness now — it is simply that no one in the West can have heard it so brilliantly conducted and sung as it was by Gergiev and his top-rank team of Kirov soloists.

The plot has a special Tchaikovskyan resonance. The Provencal princess of the title is blind; her over-solicitous father, King René, orders that on pain of death her affliction is to be concealed from her; a wise Moorish doctor advises him that only if the affliction is acknowledged, and thence the will for a cure aroused, can that cure be effected. Enter a passing tenor, love, a threatened death sentence, and on to the Happy End.

Tchaikovsky frequently composed first the passage that originally drew him to an operatic subject: here it was the duet for Iolanta and the tenor Vaudémont in which her blindness is gradually revealed to her, one of the most touching and perfectly sustained dramatic paragraphs in all Tchaikovsky's operas. Its full emotional weight was here conveyed with searing yet properly contained passion.

Even more impressive was the way Gergiev's steady tempo turned the potentially banal tune to which Vaudémont describes light to Iolanta into something of genuine dramatic weight. And his handling of the great A flat major finale of affirmation, so unexpected from a composer much given to gloom, was faultless.

The soloists were superb: the amazing Galina Gorchakova (Iolanta) impressing as much with her beautifully shaped soft singing as with her bronzed-sword of a top register; Gegam Grigorian, last season's unforgettable Lensky at Covent Garden, confirming his status as one of today's great tenors; Sergei Leiferkus making Robert's not awfully good baritone aria sound great simply through the imagination of his verbal inflections.

Bulat Minzhilkiev's King was really sung, not (as can happen) bawled, and so emerged as a more sympathetic character than usual, and Nikolai Putilin exerted proper mystery and authority as the Moor. But every Kirov singer, down to the merest Porter and Nurse, was outstanding. It was a quite wonderful evening. More, more, more.

RODNEY MILNES

TELEVISION: Martyrdom in Beirut

Blood-stained notes from the front line

WITH scarlet blood coursing down their faces, the frenzied Shi'ites of Lebanon march the hot dusty streets shouting in commemoration of the 7th-century martyr Imam Hussein. Even from the safety of one's living-room, this procession looks scary — the men and boys chanting, wailing, and repeatedly pounding their specially pre-skewered foreheads to produce fresh streams of blood. But from close-up, says Robert Fisk in voice-over, it is "a bloody and terrible spectacle ... disgusting, appalling for a westerner to behold".

"Why do Muslims hate the West?" is the question Fisk ostensibly poses in his new three-part series **From Beirut to Bosnia** (Channel 4). To answer it, he last night traced Lebanon's 17-year history of Israeli occupation and attack — countless corpses, massacres, torn buildings, burning trees, injured civilians — thereby generating considerable sympathy for their inevitable sense of grievance. As a newsman with 17 years' experience of Beirut, Fisk (of *The Independent*) had witnessed the mounting embitterment: "More than physically wounded, these people are invisibly mutilated".

So much, so understandable. But it was the obverse, virtually unstated question, "Isn't religious zeal scary?", that absorbed Fisk more, partly because he seemed so puzzled by it. Here are people who gladly sacrifice themselves in suicide missions, confident of a passage to Paradise.

The famous 1983 truck-bomb which blew up the American marine base ("the largest bomb since Hiroshima") was driven, apparently, by a happy man. Showing us a news-tape of a shocked survivor, Fisk re-winds twice, re-playing. "He says he'll always remember that the guy was smiling, he'll always remember that the guy was smiling, the guy was smiling."

Actually, martyrdom is not quite such a distant concept for westerners to grasp. Saints have yet to be abolished. Once a year at the Cenotaph we hear of people "giving their lives". But Fisk still interviewed Hezbollah soldiers in the Occupied Zone (a television first) and also questioned their leader Hassan Nasrallah in Beirut, urging them to explain martyrdom in such a way that westerners could understand. Nasrallah said Fisk should imagine being hot and thirsty in a sauna bath, and knowing that beyond the door (all you had to do was open it) was a nice cool room with cocktails. Well, I don't know about Fisk, but at this point I had the nasty feeling that westerners were being talked down to.

As so often with programmes made by journalists, *From Beirut to Bosnia* flipped repeatedly from objective assessment to personal reminiscence. Thus, in discussing the hostage-taking, Fisk described his own fears, his own personal tactics for evading kidnap. He revisited the scene of a massacre he had reported, where he had scrambled up an earth embankment for a better view, and then felt the heap sink under him — because it wasn't an earth embankment at all, but a heap of bodies, lightly covered.

But obviously, more important than anything for a programme of this sort, is the quality of his contacts book (look under "H" for "Hezbollah"?) and the respect Fisk commands by his writing. And other journalists will have been jolly interested to witness him filing his copy by phone, with all the familiar tedium of "Close quote. Point. New para."

LYNNE TRUSS

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

DUNCAN MILLER FINE ARTS 17 Flask Walk, NW3. 071 435 5462 S J PEPLOE Major works. Until Dec 12. Mon-Sat 11-5 Sun 2-5.

LEFERVE GALLERY 30 Bruton St, W1 071-493 2107 Costume designs by EDWARD BURRA. 8-21 December. Mon-Fri 10-5pm.

SPINK, King Street, St James's, SW1. OPENS TODAY 6-17 December. RARE KOREAN CERAMICS OF THE YI DYNASTY Mon-Fri, 9am-5.30pm, Tues until 7.30pm.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 071 836 3161 (24hr) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't 5.30 LOHENGRIN Tomor 7.00 FIGARO'S WEDDING

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066/1911 Tickets avail on the day. Stand-by info 836 6903. THE ROYAL BALLET Ton't 7.30 Ballet Imperial/Tales of Beatrix Potter THE ROYAL OPERA Tomor 7.00 The Magic Flute

SADLERS WELLS inc cc 071 278 8916/cc 071 497 9977 (bkg fee) 8-18 DEC Adventures in Motion Pictures "A dazzlingly imaginative new version" S.Times THE NUTCRACKER FROM 21 DEC - 8 JAN Black Light Theatre of Prague PETER PAN "Like magic come true" Times.

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THEATRES

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ALBERY THEATRE 071 867 1115/1111cc or 24hrs/bkg fee 071 344 4444 Grps 071 867 1115 or 413 3321 "GIZZARDGULPING FAMILY FUN" Times THE BFG of Roald Dahl's whizzcracking story SAVE £18 - ask box office for details Most days 2 & 7pm. Sat 11am, 2.30 & 7pm.

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FORTUNE BO & CC 836 2238 CC 344 4444 (24hrs/no bkg fee)/497 9977 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123 JOHN NETTLETON BRIAN DEACON Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt "A REAL THRILL OF HORROR" S.Times Eves 8pm Mats Tue 3pm Sat 4pm Now booking until March '94

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Small stage where the giants play

Benedict Nightingale hails the work of an Islington theatre whose remarkable success record belies its slim resources

Which subsidised theatre has transferred most productions to the West End this year? No, not the RSC, not the National. Sorry, not the Royal Court or Hampstead Theatre. Here is a clue. The theatre is situated in a tacky part of Islington, has 300 seats only, and has been run for the past four years by two actors with no previous experience of artistic direction. All right, here's another. Tonight, one of these performers opens a production of Molière's *School for Wives* in which the other plays the lead.

The answer is Jonathan Kent and Ian McDiarmid's Almeida. Its transfers of Pinter's *No Man's Land* and Rattigan's *Deep Blue Sea* may have run their courses; but David Leveaux's production of Pinter's *Moonlight* is still at the Comedy and Kent's revival of *Medea* still at Wyndhams. Indeed, Euripides's tragedy, with Diana Rigg radiating grim-faced charisma, has proved the autumn's most unexpected hit.

> 'The Almeida is not a studio. It's an epic space in miniature'

Kent and McDiarmid insist that they have never picked a play with a view to shifting it westwards and add that, since the Almeida has no production company, the profits from even a long run are tiny. Still, four transfers is a remarkable total, given their theatre's slim resources and the West End public's resistance to serious drama. When the two long-time friends jointly applied for the Almeida's top job in 1989 ("we'd talked and dreamt of having our own place, as actors do") they never expected to land it, let alone be receiving an Olivier Award for excellence just three years later.

What is the secret of the Almeida's rapid success? Well, it got off on the right foot in 1990. To open with Howard Barker's scabrous *Scenes from an Execution* was risky in itself, especially as there was money only for that and half another production; but with Glenda Jackson in the lead, it was always going to attract attention. Since then major actors have proved willing to come to the Almeida for its basic wage of £185 a week: Paul Eddington in *No Man's Land*, Alan Bates in *Bernhard's Showman*, Janet Suzman in *Hippolytus*, and Diana Rigg, first in Dryden's *All for Love*, then in *Medea*.

"We just ring up and ask," explains Kent. The attraction is partly the Almeida itself. The stage is large, larger even than one or two West End theatres, yet no spectator is more than a few yards from it.

McDiarmid: "It's not a studio. People aren't looking up your nostrils and you needn't give a scaled-down performance. Yet if you want to give one, you can." Kent: "You can do big plays like *All for Love* and intimate ones too. Our cliché is that it's an epic space in miniature."

But the finest theatre will not attract top talent without the right people and approach behind it. Kent and McDiarmid may not be everyday names on the Clapham omnibus, but each has spent 20 years building a reputation for enterprising performances. And when men of their calibre talk of the "primacy of acting and of language", meaning that a playwright's words must never be swamped by visual ado, it is not surprising their fellow professionals listen.

They have avoided formulating a more precise policy than this, feeling that it can only categorise, trap and limit them. In practice, they follow their own very similar and pretty catholic tastes, trying to ensure a balance between new plays and revivals. That has brought Islington dramatists as various as Wedekind and Anouilh, the young Asian-American Han Ong and, of course, our own Harold Pinter.

He was impressed enough by the theatre's production of his *Betrayal* to offer it both his short *Party Time* and his first full-length play in years, *Moonlight*. Moreover, he himself appeared in its revival of *No Man's Land*, consolidating what already seems one of the more important creative relationships of our era. But then a playhouse which can persuade Brian Friel to remodel Turgenev's *Month in the Country* and David Hare to adapt Brecht's *Galileo* — both promised for 1994 — can anyway rely on a place in the theatre histories.

Interviewing Kent and McDiarmid is like talking to a man with two heads. Ideas and opinions flow seamlessly, with changes of speaker sometimes occurring in mid-sentence. Clearly, their easy-going rapport is another reason for the Almeida's success. They share all management duties and, they say, seldom if ever disagree about essentials. The main difference is that, while one is still primarily an actor, the other has found unexpected fulfilment in direction. Kent's revival of *School for Wives*, with McDiarmid as the jealous Arnolphe, is his seventh production at the Almeida.

"I sometimes fear I've lost my nerve about acting," says Kent. "During performances I think, how did I ever get onstage? How did I learn the lines? Nor can I just sit down and watch something I've directed. I get this feeling that if I do so, the play will stop. I stand at the back, and if something goes wrong, I go into a sort of jack-knife position and fall to the floor. I find direction terrifying — and fascinating."

There are of course less exhilarating anxieties in the Almeida air, mostly financial ones. The crisis that struck in 1991, when the London Borough Grants Committee threatened to withdraw £55,000, may have passed; but the theatre must still take an annual £400,000 at the box-office, which means selling 80 per cent of its seats. Since they mount just six productions a year, McDiarmid and Kent know that one flop could destroy them.

But that fear has yet to influence their programming. Many choices, such as Griboyedev's *Chatsky* and Ong's *L.A. Plays*, have been highly risky. A new play by the little-known Phyllis Nagy is scheduled for 1994, as is a revival of Jarry's *Ubu Roi* by Jonathan Miller, with a cast of teenagers. "We would never do a play we thought was not good so as to afford one that was," says McDiarmid. "If we fail, we fail."

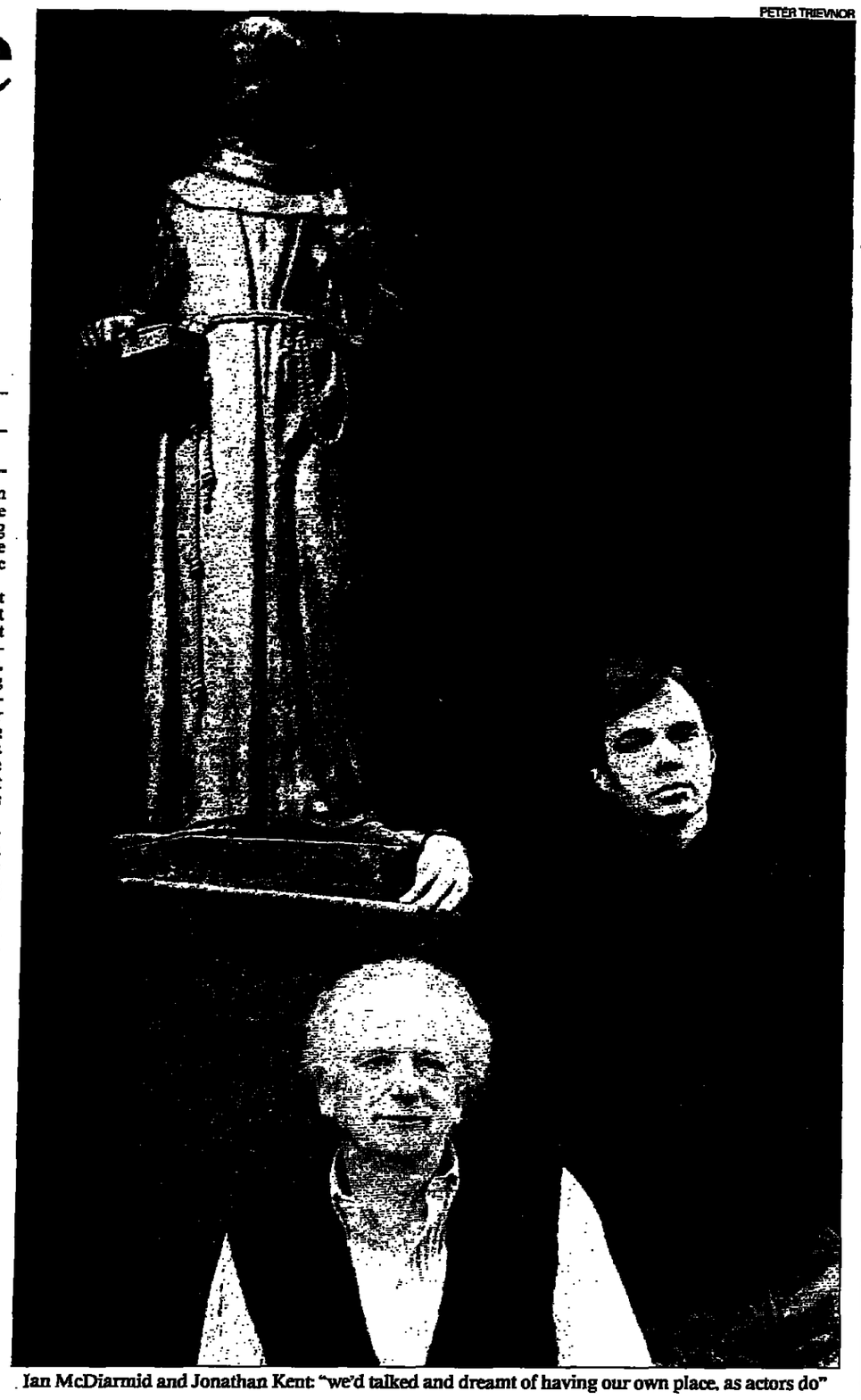
Well, their Almeida has had its critics, including some on Islington Council, which gives it a derisory £2,500 a year. The word is that it is too mandarin or, as the LBGC said in 1991, has not targeted "the physically or economically disabled" or "promoted cultural identities". "The implication is that excellence equals elitism," says Kent. "I find it depressing that it's not enough to offer great performances in great plays."

But that is what the theatre has offered and, it seems, will continue to offer. Plans are afoot for the Swedish actor Peter Stormare to appear in something by Strindberg, and for Ralph Fiennes to play Hamlet. Moreover, Kent and McDiarmid hope to start a touring arm, which would bring work to London, though not necessarily to the Almeida, as part of a European runaround.

McDiarmid: "I've seen organisations that have found a pattern for success go on repeating it *ad nauseam*. You can't let yourself be categorised. You've got to keep moving." Kent: "Also, the secret of running anything is creative energy. If ours falters, it will be time to go." Late in 1993, that particular danger looks far away.

● *Jonathan Kent's production of* The School for Wives *opens tonight at the Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, Islington, London N1 (071-359 4404)*

PETER TRIEVNOR



Ian McDiarmid and Jonathan Kent: "we'd talked and dreamt of having our own place, as actors do"

LONDON CONCERTS

Ideal setting for songs of sorrow

BBC SO/Lazarev
Festival Hall

FOR some Górecki's "Symphony of Sorrowful Songs" is a poignant lament that strikes profound chords in the contemporary psyche; for others it is a monotonous exercise in mind-numbing Minimalism.

While confessing my own position to be closer to the latter, I did find this performance, by the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Alexander Lazarev, more engaging than usual. Perhaps the experience of hearing it live for the first time had something to do with it: one cannot but be impressed by the rapt attentiveness of a sympathetic audience that allows a full 15 seconds to elapse between the last notes and the first applause.

But more than that, I think it had to do with the context of the BBC's Polish season, which has deepened one's understanding of the background to Górecki's Third. A broadcast of his First Symphony, dating from 1959, the previous evening, demonstrated the fragmented, frenetic style of his earlier years. His subsequent turn towards the simplicity of chant and ritual in the Sixties and Seventies was against the grain of the times.

Hearing music that is the antithesis of the brash, go-getting spirit of our age, I wish I could respond more positively. Yet it is always the moments of change, the pivotal points in the structure, that arrest me — the first appearance of the soprano soloist (here the excellent Lorna Anderson), the entry of the rich, velvet-toned brass — rather than the repetitions.

Fully accepting that this is missing the point of the piece, I admired Lazarev's handling of its massive arches, and admired even more the vibrancy of the drama he extracted from Szymanowski's Symphony No 4 ("Symphonie Concertante"). This compatriot composer's folk-derived melodies provided more valuable context, even if the dynamism, the scintillating orchestration and the virtuoso piano part (played with glittering panache by Janina Fialkowska) are all worlds away from the penitential austerity of the "Symphony of Sorrowful Songs".

BARRY MILLINGTON

Unsound fury

Bell/Isserlis/Mustonen
Wigmore Hall

EXTREME playing produces extreme reactions: eavesdropping in the interval of Friday's Wigmore Hall recital by Joshua Bell, Steven Isserlis and Olli Mustonen yielded a rich and varied harvest. Those familiar with the piano playing of young Mustonen will know that this is where the business starts and ends. Staccato stings like a whiplash, grace notes sigh almost to expiry, chords are hit as if an entire drum kit were in action. He is intuitively musical, and his responses are genuinely passionately felt. His thrashing about should not be mistaken for display or affectation: but it is fast approaching the point where physical indiscipline is actually undercutting interpretation and technique itself.

What is more, the violent mid-phrase eddies, the percussive shock tactics and the perversely exaggerated phrasing which badly distorted the Schumann Trio in G minor (Op 110) inevitably rubs off on his fellow players. Bell and Isserlis are either forced to respond in kind, as they did in the variations of the Beethoven B flat major Trio (Op 11), or are dogged into the merely maudlin, as in the finale of the Schumann.

It is unpleasant to have to say this of musicians of such individual imagination and enterprise. Their joint chamber music making, borne out of festivals, has not yet learnt how to modify and pace the properly excited and excitable playing of such seasonal encounters into a partnership for all seasons. I suspect, too, that the frenetic hyperactivity of Friday's concert was also a form of overdrive brought on by the nervous and physical exhaustion which a European tour of daily gigs inevitably brings.

Shostakovich alone remained relatively unscathed: this E minor Trio contains music of extremes whose central dance of death can take a fair amount of sawing and thumping. But Bell, Isserlis, Mustonen and their several agents should take a long, hard look at what is going on here. A videotape and a post-mortem might offer a salutary experience for all concerned.

HILARY FINCH

Master with a degree in melody

Clive Davis talks to a young saxophonist hailed as the most exciting new voice in jazz since Wynton Marsalis

Joshua Redman's story is the stuff that publicists dream of. Here he is, a handsome, articulate young man from a poor background who graduates *summa cum laude* at Harvard, lands a place at Yale Law School, and then turns his back on it all, virtually on the spur of the moment, to devote himself to the saxophone — and to play it so well that within months he is hailed by many as the most exciting jazz musician to hit New York since Wynton Marsalis.

And he is only 24. At this point even Frank Capra might have suggested that the storyline was a touch too sunny. Redman himself gives a half-suppressed groan when he is asked, for the umpteenth time, to describe the route from the Ivy League to the Village Vanguard.

The fact that he is the son of Dewey Redman, a brilliant but undervalued tenor player who has worked with Ornette Coleman and Keith Jarrett, adds an extra twist. Yet Redman's performance on his new album, *Wish* (Warners 9362-453652) — where he found himself in the imposing company of Pat Metheny, Charlie Haden and Billy Higgins — goes some way to justifying the hyperbole.

The two points that strike new listeners are his full, seasoned tone and his unabashed love of melody. Those are attributes that have not been in fashion over the past quarter century. There are plenty of conservatory-trained virtuosos, to be sure, but very few who give the saxophone the warmth and resonance of the human voice.

He names Sonny Rollins as a prime influence, but he has a passion, too, for unfashionable, raw-toned tenor men such as Stanley Turrentine. He also has a refreshingly unconventional taste in material; Stevie Wonder's "Make Sure You're Sure" and Eric Clapton's "Tears In Heaven" sit comfortably alongside Charlie Parker's "Moose The Mooche". "I don't feel the need to uphold some standard of purity," he explains. "Jazz musicians have always drawn from disparate sources."

Born in the year of Woodstock in the radical haven of Berkeley, California, he was raised by his mother, seldom seeing his father except during Redman Senior's occasional musical sorties to the West Coast. Joshua, who had no formal musical tuition, played in bands at high school and university, but music always took second place to his academic studies.

It was in 1991, when he took a year off in New York prior to entering Yale Law School, that he began to give the saxophone his full attention. While sharing a house with musicians he started playing on the club circuit, and soon afterwards took first place in the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone Competition. It was not long before he he was getting phone calls from Elvin Jones, Jack DeJohnette and other veteran bandleaders.

As a self-taught player, Redman confesses to gaps in his knowledge of music theory. Yet he clearly knew enough to gain the imprimatur of Pat Metheny who, whatever the merits of his soft-focus fusion albums, is a renowned master of harmony. Missing out on music school has not, Redman thinks, proved too much of a disadvantage. "I know a lot of great, soulful musicians who've come out of music college, but there are things that you *cannot* teach about music, and one of those is creativity.

"People come out with tremendous technique and tremendous knowledge of theory, but they don't have any sense of themselves as musicians and they don't have any emotional involvement with the music — which in the end is the only thing that really matters. The technique and the theory are all means to the end. The intellect is just a resource through which you express what your soul has to say."

DENZIL MCNEELANCE



Joshua Redman: playing with warmth and resonance

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THE TIMES THEATRE CLUB

THEATRE: Triumph for an unfamiliar name at the National

On the road to victory

Mother Courage
Cottesloe

Some forceful actresses have played Brecht's "vulture of the battlefields" in recent years, but in some ways they should cede precedence to a name you may not know. Ellie Haddington has done big things in Bolton, York and Manchester, but she has been little seen further south. On the evidence of the touring production Anthony Clark has mounted for the National's education department, that is London's lapse and loss, for she has a tough, hard energy that suits Mother Courage better than the emotional bravura the role sometimes provokes.

I saw her Courage in Fulham the other day, a reddish-faced, prematurely aged woman truculently pushing an ancient pram complete with bawling baby through the North End Road market. It is easy to imagine her with her hands on her hips, yelling at her neighbours or (a comparison her vaguely 1940s mix of headscarf, battered cardigan, old dress and baggy brown trousers invites) making V-signs at Hitler's V-rockets. Certainly, I fully believed she had spent years tramping Europe with her brood and her canteen, exploiting the Thirty Years War and being systematically destroyed by it.

"All I want is to get me children, me cart and me through all of this," she says. Those plain words — characteristic of Hanif Kureishi's blunt translation — sum up her performance very well. Nobody can put anything over on her when she is in pursuit of profit, or so she believes. Witness her raucous, combative glee when she thinks of her business skills. Witness, too, her gloom when peace briefly breaks out.

Brecht's suggestion is that she is streetwise but, so to speak, road-foolish. She cannot see far enough beyond her raw, bony nose to twig that her successes imperil those for whom she wishes to succeed. But for this point to carry weight we must believe that, rough and unsentimental as she is, she genuinely cares for her children. For Haddington, that's no problem. She is excellent throughout the famous sequence in which she loses a son to the firing squad by haggling over a bribe, especially at a climax which leaves her rocking with throaty grief, then stumbling off with a half-nonchalant, half-broken shrug. The bent, exhausted figure she cuts after her daughter's murder is almost more eloquent.

Not everything in the performance — a self-mocking girlishness, for instance — quite succeeds. Nor does everything in the production. Its blend of periods — a parody Cavalier here, a plummy BBC voice delivering stage directions from a creaky radio over there — seems over-emphatic. But Haddington is a real find, and Clark's revival kept me, no great Brechtian, engrossed throughout. It has clarity, pace and a supporting cast consistently strong enough to make me feel a bit guilty for picking out Michelle Joseph, emotionally most articulate as Courage's speechless daughter, Kattrin.

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Required for two Directors. Mature 25-35 year old to cope with all aspects of a small property company in Mayfair. Must be flexible, versatile and able to work alone. Marvellous opportunity for someone wanting something different.

Please write with CV to Claire Breach, Suite 8, Audley House, 9 North Audley Street, London W1Y 1WF.

Secretary/PA
Hotel/Property Group

Good organisational skills, shorthand and able to work on own initiative.
£16-18,000
Please fax your c.v. to 071-498 0162 or write:
50 Clapham Common, Northside
London SW4 0AB

PA to Chief Executive
£25,000 package - EC2

This is a top-level role in a leading City based institution. His style is people-orientated but down-to-earth and your manner should compliment this. You will also need minimum 5 years' stable work record in a large company environment (at least 3 years' at board level) plus A-level education. Excellent skills (100/60) and presentation essential. For details please call 071-493 5787.

GORDON·YATES
Recruitment Consultants

First Steps in PR
to £15,000 – EC1

Lively, young City Agency seeks College Leaver/ Second Jobber/Team Secretary. Brilliant, fast paced world of press conferences, media contact, client-led creativity and buzz a plenty – the sort of job you run to on a Monday morning! Intelligent, articulate, lively, punchy, fast-thinking, team-orientated full of personality and good under pressure? Accurate typing (50wpm)? Get in the fast lane. Call 071-409 1232.

THE WORK SHOP
Recruitment Consultants to the Communications Industry

RUSTY SHORTHAND? CONSIDER OUR SPECIAL OFFER!

Have you lost your shorthand speed? Is this holding you back in your search for a new job? **IF SO - WE CAN HELP YOU!**

Get your shorthand speed back to 90 wpm and reap greater rewards.

One of our major City clients is on a serious recruitment drive for smart, switched on secretaries, aged 20-35. It is an extremely professional company offering fantastic benefits, good training and promotional prospects. Between us, we are prepared to pay for a shorthand course if you fit the bill!

Please call Marianne Hope NOW for futher information on
071-734 8484

PAN EUROPEAN RECRUITMENT

MARKETING DEPARTMENT
£16,500+ m/s + benefits

Extra strong organisational skills are needed for this involved and busy role working in the marketing department of this successful City Company. The role is split, 50% secretarial support (needing 70/80 wpm shorthand) and 50% administration. The emphasis is on seminar and conference organisation, both UK and Europe. Ideally you will have some experience of Word for Windows and an excellent telephone manner.

Call us NOW on
071-734 8484

PAN EUROPEAN RECRUITMENT

TOP PA
c.£25,000++

Superb opportunity to support dynamic Chief Executive of expanding City Co. A good communicator with flair + initiative and a banking background, MS Windows + Excel/Lotus essential. Age range: 26-36.

Norton Recruitment Consultants 071-823 2552.

Manpower Opportunities

Word for Windows Secretaries

For our major client the
European Bank for Reconstruction & Development
we currently require experienced secretaries for a variety of temporary opportunities. A city or financial background would be ideal. Shorthand always useful.

If you have the required word processing knowledge, & are looking for work within a challenging international environment, supported by an attractive pay & benefits package, please call Claire Baker immediately.

Tel: 071-488 2880
78 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 4BT

MANPOWER *You can measure the difference*

MD's Secretary
£21,000 pckg ++

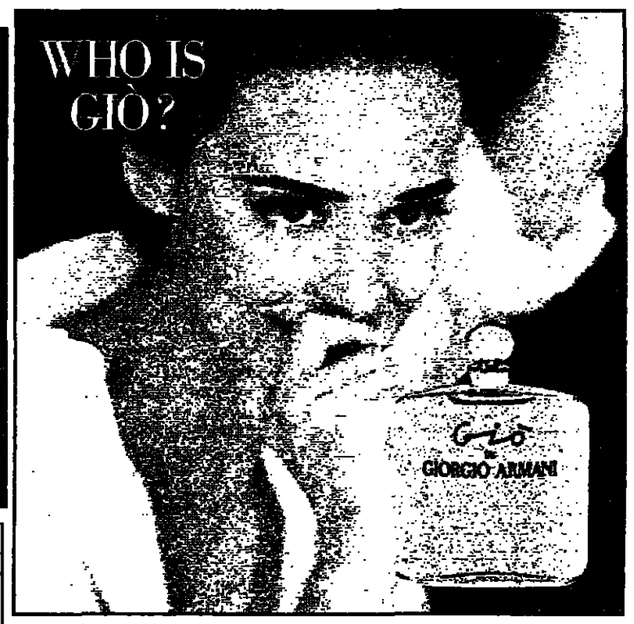
Very busy MD of the corporate finance division within a top City bank, seeks a socially poised and polished secretary with a work hard, play hard attitude. The environment is pressurised but fun and rewarding, you will need a flexible approach to hours as they can sometimes be long (overtime is paid) and enjoy dealing with important clients on a daily basis. If you have excellent typing 65 wpm+ and Wordperfect 5.1 for the presentations, are aged 22-30 with A'levels and seek a demanding and interesting position. Please call Esther Marsden on 071-377 9919.

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Banking Sec
£16,000 + outstanding Bens

Leading US investment bank is looking for an experienced secretary to support an expanding support division. This full and varied role requires a confident and assertive individual with excellent secretarial and organisational skills and a team spirited attitude. Duties will include the drafting of legal documents, extensive client contact, diary scheduling and arranging meetings. The ideal candidate will have gained experience within a legal or financial environment and be educated to O'level standard. Skills: 60 wpm typing and WP. Age: 25-35. Please telephone Charlotte Pelling on 071-377 8827

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS



Secretarial Opportunities

For one of our most prestigious clients, an oil company based in WC2, we require 2 people for the following long term temporary opportunities:

Marketing Secretary
You will have excellent DW4, Lotus and graphics experience, along with a high level of numeracy to assist with basic accounting procedures.

Graphics Secretary
There will be lots of travel to organise, along with presentation work using spreadsheets and graphics. Ideally, you will have experience of WordPerfect for Windows, Lotus for Windows and Freelance.

For more information on either of these excellent opportunities please call
Wendy Morgan
071 831 8582
MANPOWER *You can measure the difference*

WORKING
TV STAR
CHAIRMAN'S PA - TV. C£18,000

This is the one that you have been scouring the newspapers for! It's a brilliant position within a TV facilities company, working for the Chairman, with involvement at the very top level. The company is at the very front of modern post production technology: such areas as computer animation graphics, and 3D modelling. The work is highly interesting, sometimes sensitive, including projects of your own - but always totally varied and involved. Your secretarial skills must be top class - INCLUDING EXCELLENT SHORTHAND. Although this is a PA position, from time to time there is a need for a team approach, and generally mucking-in is the order of the day.

We strongly advise you to get in first for this job so call Jill NOW on 071 240 0040 - fame awaits!

Working Girls Ltd, Professional Recruitment
17 Tavistock St, Covent Garden, London WC2E 7PA

THOMAS GOODE SINCE 1827

The Wedding List Service

A highly motivated person with excellent administrative and organisational skills is required to work in this successful, busy and expanding department. Good typing skills with a positive telephone manner for sales would benefit the applicant and the ability to keep calm when working in haste and under pressure.

The successful candidate will be required to wear a uniform provided by the company and in return will be offered a good package with positive career opportunities.

Please apply in writing to:-
Miss Saira Joshi
Thomas Goode & Co. Limited
19 South Audley Street, London W1Y 6BN

NPC NETWORK PERSONNEL CONSULTANCY LIMITED

TEMPORARY/PERMANENT VACANCIES

We are a small privately owned consultancy dealing with many prestigious City and West End companies.
We urgently require more secretarial temporaries to fulfil various diverse and interesting assignments.
We can offer TOP RATES & FREE WP X-TRAINING.
We are also recruiting permanent staff for these same companies and are looking for secretarial and DTP people to fill a variety of appointments.

For more details contact Janette Rainer-Thomas or Lina Sohner
Tel: 071 329 8055 Fax: 071 332 0243

"TOP OF THE TREE"

Twinkle, Glimmer, Sparkle, Shimmer - let the festive season shine with opportunities to ensure that your new year starts in the best possible way. January is a magical time for both permanent and temporary opportunities, and we can help to wave the magic wand that will guarantee your success in 1994.

Please call us on 071-486 6951 (West End) or 071-638 9205 (City) *Zarak Hay Partnership*

Maine-Tucker
Executive Recruitment

North London
THE COMPANY OF YOUR DREAMS!
£18,500 + Car + Bonus + 5 wks hols

We promise you, you'll want to work with this multi-million pound company until you retire! Working as PA to both the Chairman and MD you'll really spend your time in the fast lane of big business! Each day you'll marvel at their incredibly luxurious offices, be mesmerised by the huge corporate events you help organise, BUT you'll also have to knuckle down to some serious corporate secretarial work (80 shorthand, 55 typing - minutes take exp useful). This is a job where your glamour & bright personality is allowed to shine through. If you believe you are the tops we want to hear from you....fast!

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 071 734 7341

INTERNATIONAL LAW FIRM-MAYFAIR

American Partner of international law firm seeks secretary/p.a. with initiative, dedication, and good computer/organisational skills.

Please post c.v. to Ms. Hayley Dawson, Salans Hertzfeld & Heilbronn, 103 Mount Street, London W1Y 5HE or call on 071-491 3735
No Agencies

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Seeks experienced PA/Secretary with excellent shorthand /wordprocessing (Wordperfect 5.1). Salary £14,000 p.a.

CV to Sternberg Foundation, Star House, 104 Grafton Road, NW5 4BD Tel: 071 485 2538.

SECRETARY

Required for a lively Property Company based in New Kings Road. Excellent secretarial skills required. First class references essential. Excellent salary. Must be prepared to use own initiative.

Please send CV to: Romulus Construction Ltd., Burlington House, 184 New Kings Road, London SW6 4SW.

Manpower Opportunities

Junior Shorthand/Audio Secretary
£12-13,000 + paid overtime

For our client, a firm of stockbrokers in EC4, we are urgently seeking a young, enthusiastic college leaver or second jobber with excellent shorthand and audio skills to work for a busy corporate finance team.

This role is varied and demanding, requiring initiative, flexibility and the ability to work to consistently high standards.

Excellent benefits include generous overtime, cheap loans and mortgage subsidy. Interested? Call Julie Maxwell.

60 Cheapside, EC2
071 236 0277
MANPOWER *You can measure the difference*

SECRETARY/PA

For busy complimentary health clinic W1. Also required part-time Receptionist. Must be well spoken, smart appearance. Pleasant environment.

Please Reply with CV to Box No S173, 1 Virginia Street, Wapping E19DD

SEBASTIAN CONRAN PRODUCT IDENTITY DESIGN

Our friendly and hardworking team of designers require:

PA/ADMINISTRATOR

Accounts, SAGE and Excel experience helpful. Excellent conditions.

Please write enclosing a full CV to: Catherine Lever, Sebastian Conran P.I.D. 2 Munden Street, London, W14 0RH

career•moves

OUT OF THE ORDINARY ADVERTISING PA
c£22,000

A Professional, mature, intelligent approach is essential in this high profile PA/Sec role. Assisting the MD of a top flight international Advertising Agency. You'll be responsible for making creative use of his time (diaries, meetings, people etc) and organise all company social events. He needs you to be calm, thinking, sensitive, in control and with a sense of humour. Must have exp. of working at MD/Chief Exec. level (maybe in PR/Publishing/Design) with excellent sec skills (S/H a distinct advantage) 28-37.

Call Career Moves (rec cons) on 071 636 6411 for an immediate appointment or fax us on 071 636 2457.

Maine-Tucker
Executive Recruitment

Waterloo or Blackfriars Culinary Delights
£12,500 + 5 wks hols.

Literally a mouthwatering opportunity to work for one of the country's best food and drink magazines, which also has a major input from a leading cook! You'll be working as Advertisement Administrator in one of the best areas of the magazine with their advertising team...placing ads, chasing copy etc. You'll also have secretarial (windows exp a must as using WP 5.1 for Windows - 50 typing) and other admin duties. It's a fantastic 2nd jobber position & the likelihood of prospects is strong. So if you're 23/24, & love your food, please contact us about this tasty position!

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 071 734 7341

TOP LEVEL PA
c£20,000

This successful International organisation require a highly motivated individual to work at top level for a dynamic senior executive. Your previous board level experience will help you keep one step ahead of his global activities. You will organise and attend UK conferences, set up meetings and liaise internationally with people at a senior level. A'level education together with 100/60 skills and a minimum of 6 years experience required.

Please telephone 071 628 9529

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SECRETARIES Pertemps City Network

The Recruitment market has gone mad, and yes even at this time of year we are still inundated with both permanent and temporary assignments. Our clients are major Blue Chip organisations such as Chase Manhattan Bank. Listed below are very brief details of three of our permanent positions. Please contact MICHELLE SAYERS for further details.

Partners Sec(SH)	EC4	£18,000 + Benefits
Banking Sec	EC2	£18,500 + Package
Group Sec	WC2	£15,500 + Benefits

We would also like to hear from any temporary secretaries with Shorthand or Audio, and experience of MSWord for Windows, Wordperfect for Windows, Wordperfect 5.1, Freelance for Windows, and Ventura. Top Rates Paid!!

Please contact MARION SCANLON or DEBORAH SMITH on
071 621 1304
Plantation House, 23 Rood Lane, London EC3M 3DX.

Stocks & Shares
£15,500 + BB

Stockbrokers in EC4 are looking to fill a varied administrative position within their busy and demanding Corporate Broking area. We need a computer literate number cruncher who is accurate and enjoys using their Word for Windows preparing reports and presentations, handling broking databases, coordinating the timetable of a frantic team and keeping client files in order. Long hours are part of the package but so are the superb benefits and overtime! This is a great opportunity to move away from secretarial and take advantage of excellent training. Please call Jessica Trench on Tel: (071) 377 9919.

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SECRETARY/ASSISTANT
£14K pa

A confident, competent assistant with good organisation and communication skills, together with initiative, flexibility and an outgoing personality is required to give full support to this busy Special Events Department. A sound knowledge of the Applemac Computer is essential. 6 months initial contract with possible full term employment.

Please send your CV, with a covering letter to:

Mandy Hills, Special Events Department, 80 Vincent Square, LONDON SW1P 2PE

Maine-Tucker
Recruitment Consultants

"VIP" JOB
£18,000 + Car + Extensive Travel + Med + Allowances

This is a position for an impeccable, elegant and intellectual PA/Assistant to work with one of this country's most connected Chief Executives. Working for his company your job encompasses secretarial support, client liaison, entertainment & extensive worldwide travel. If you have worked closely with a very senior businessman or perhaps a titled person & in your mid 20's this job could be for you. *Conversational Spanish a bonus*

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 071 734 7341

PARTNERS' PA's Merton Associates
£18-20,000

Merton Associates is one of the UK's leading Executive Search Consultants. The Partners headhunt director level people on behalf of a wide range of blue chip clients.

The Partners' PAs have an important and demanding role, being involved in every facet of each search. They must have first class secretarial skills including fast accurate audio word processing, be extremely organised and be able to handle the detail of a number of projects at the same time. They must have the confidence, tact and personality to deal with senior executives both as clients and as candidates. Telephone skills will be of great importance. Preferably they will be graduates; with the right ability and ambition they would progress into research.

Two immediate appointments are to be made. One to our City practice, requiring experience in (eg) an Investment Bank or Brokerage. The second is to work with Consumer Marketing clients and preferred backgrounds would include work in an Advertising Agency, Marketing Consultancy or Consumer Goods company.

Please reply, enclosing full CV, to Linda Barr, Merton Associates, Merton House, 70 Grafton Way, London W1P 5LE, or by fax on 071 387 5324.

FLEXIBLE SECRETARY FOR LEADING PROPERTY COMPANY
Salary to £16,850 p.a. (AAE)

St. Martins Property Corporation Limited seeks a mature, motivated secretary to work for senior members of a small department with responsibility for a major property development scheme.

The successful applicant will have excellent audio/copy typing speeds (S/H would be useful) a well groomed appearance and a good sense of humour. A flexible approach to duties is essential.

An excellent benefits package is offered, including LV's and 25 days annual leave.

Please write, in confidence, with full CV stating current salary to:-

Miss D A Burrell
Personnel Administrator
St. Martins Property Corporation Limited
Adelaide House
London Bridge
London EC4R 9DT
(NO AGENCIES)

LEARN NEW SKILLS AND REFRESH OLD ONES

Intensive or flexible courses in information technology and secretarial skills offered throughout the year.

St James's Secretarial College
Kensington, London SW5
071 373 3852

25% Tax Relief on all self-funded training.
Careers Advisory Service available.

PA/ADMIN ASSISTANT
C14-16K

Upmarket Catering Co, requires experienced, efficient Admin Assistant.

Essential qualities include the ability to work under pressure, good word processing skills, educated to minimum of A-level standard, smart presentation and telephone manner, age 20-30 yrs.

Fun and Rewarding job for the right applicant.

Apply to: Penny Ellis
071 582 8511

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TO ADVERTISE CALL: 071 481 9994

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX: 071 782 7828

Shorthand Secretaries

Members of the Diplomatic Service staff the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London and British diplomatic missions overseas, where they spend up to two-thirds of their career.

We are recruiting secretaries with speeds of 100 wpm shorthand and at least 30 wpm typing. You must also have a minimum of 3 GCSEs at grades A-C, including English Language (or NVQ equivalent), or at least 3 years' relevant work experience. You must also fulfill our nationality requirements.

In London salaries start at £12,500 rising to over £14,000.

For further information and an application form, please write to Secretarial Recruitment, Personnel Policy Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 4 Matthew Parker Street, London SW1H 9NL.

Foreign & Commonwealth Office

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from men and women of all ethnic origins.

ALL-ROUNDER £20,000

The Managing Director of a City Company needs an experienced PA. In addition you will act as co-ordinator between clients, management and staff and handle a variety of administrative projects on your own. We therefore need a skilled all-rounder with qualities of leadership and communication. Age 28-35. Skills 100/70.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES
071 629 9323

TEMP TO PERM

We have 7 temp to perm assignments starting mid December in Central London. They range from Team Secretary to Senior PA with salaries and benefits to be envied. If you have 55wpm typing, MS Word for Windows and/or Powerpoint, call Tate Appointments on 071 408 0424.

Tate

MEMBERSHIP SALES EXECUTIVE

International Club Company Ltd, a premier business leisure and golf club developer and operator seeks a dedicated and committed person to be responsible for sales of club membership for their City club project in London.

The person we are seeking must possess

- Proven sales record
- Sound Sales skills
- Good communication and written skills
- Good interpersonal and administration skills.

Base salary £15k, O.T.E. 20k+ Training and excellent career advancement opportunities are also offered.

Please apply in writing forwarding your CV to:
Project Director, International Club Company Ltd
7 Old Bailey, London, EC4M 7NB. Tel: 071 332 0070

FILM/TV c.£17,500

Personable PA needed to work with Group Finance Director of a highly successful Film and TV Production company. Must have strong secretarial skills (minimum 60wpm) and should be able to handle both figures and phones with precision and tact. The job involves the smooth-running of the office with a great deal of liaison within company. If you have sound secretarial experience and want to work with a busy, committed team, call us now.

JUDY FISHER ASSOCIATES
071-437 2277
Recruitment Consultants

Leading Independent Parliamentary Consultancy seek

PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

We are seeking a highly organised PA for a varied and interesting role within this small and friendly company.

You must have knowledge of WordPerfect 5.1 & 6.0, be personable and presentable, able to get along with a wide variety of people, and have had previous Secretarial experience.

Please send your CV to:
Victoria Nelson
90 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6JD

PA TO CHAIRMAN + FINANCE DIRECTOR CHARTERED SURVEYORS

Outstanding opportunity with leading commerical property advisory company providing full secretarial assistance to the Chairman and to the Finance Director. The role, at the heart of this quoted group, is demanding, requiring an ability to organise and prioritise and work on own initiative. Fast accurate typing, audio skills, shorthand (90wpm) and Wordperfect for Windows 5.1 are essential. Excellent package. Age 25-40.

Please send CVs to: Julie Gillies
Personnel & Administration Manager
26/28 Sackville Street, London, W1X 2QL

PA to Chairman £20,000

The cultured, high profile Chairman needs a top PA to help him move this company forward. The role will include administration of the department in addition to dealing with many leading City Names (Names experience is preferred though not essential).
Shorthand/Typing: 90/60wpm 'A' level Computer literate

Please telephone 071-726 8491

Angela Mortimer
SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY

ARCHITECTS, W14

Administrative Secretary needed for the Partnership Secretary and the Finance Director of architectural practice. Willingness to undertake cheerfully a variety of tasks with initiative and confidentiality. Excellent skills - wp 60wpm, some shorthand. Salary c.£16,000.

Also Team Secretary required for various projects. Well-organised, flexible, excellent skills (wp 70wpm, some shorthand), able to work under pressure at times. Salary £14,500.

Apply Sally Perring, Chapman Taylor Partners, 364 Kensington High Street, W14 8NS. Tel. 071-371-3000.

PERSONNEL COORDINATOR

c£20K + Mort Subs + Bens.

Assist with managing 100+ secretaries, select & book temps, produce staff reports, carry out skill tests & arrange interviews, assist with training & development & deal with new starters induction. Must have relevant Personnel/Human Resources exp. & Sec PA exp within a large organisation. 60+ typ & A'level ed. Age 27-35.

SPONSORSHIP & TV PA'S

c£16,000 + benefits.

As PA to Marketing Director of this International organisation you'll be involved in all aspects of business development. Self motivation, initiative & enthusiasm are pre-requisites for this key role. Excellent WP skills (60wpm) A'level ed. Language desirable, not essential. Age 23-30.

ROYDS RAPHAEL REC 071 287 2050

£20,000 PA/Office Manager

For small, highly successful US investment management company. This is a new position which would suit someone with excellent administrative & communication skills who is used to working at senior level, providing secretarial support & taking responsibility for all aspects of the smooth running of a small professional office. Age: 28-40. Skills: 60 typing.

The Recruitment Company
071-831 1220

LONDON HOUSE HUNTERS

is a small progressive property management firm specialising in domestic property in the Kensington and Chelsea area with over 40 properties under management.

We are looking for a keen and committed assistant manager to help manager both flats and houses. The work requires considerable tact and diplomacy and the ability to work well in a small team. Secretarial skills, numeracy and Word Processing for Windows are desirable.

Apply Evangaline Lowe-Lennon with manuscript and full CV stating current salary to: ERN Advertising Communications, Premier Suites, Exchange House, 494 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 2ER

FRIEND & FALCKE

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

required by our busy Chelsea Lettings department. Must have good secretarial skills, be adaptable and have a sense of humour.

Competitive salary for right person to start immediately.

Contact: Jo Miles on 071-225 0814 - Tel
071-581 0720 - Fax

OFFICE ADMINISTATOR W4 c£16,000 plus benefits

A small, expanding business in the service industry is looking for a flexible, efficient administrator with good inter-personal skills who likes to belong to a team. The successful candidate will be able to juggle a number of roles at once including telephone and secretarial duties (30%) and general administration (70%), keeping the office and its 2 Directors organised. A good telephone manner and strong sense of client service, computer skills (WordPerfect 5.1) and attention to detail are essential. Knowledge of London and a sense of humour advantageous.

Please reply to: Box No 5184, 1 Virginia Street, Wapping, London E1 9DD.

PUBLIC CREME

ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS
REGENT'S PARK

SENIOR SECRETARY/ ADMINISTRATOR
£16,000 plus benefits
Fixed-Term Contract of 12 Months

The College is a membership organisation concerned with standards of care, training, education and examinations in the medical speciality of obstetrics and gynaecology. We wish to appoint a Senior Secretary/Administrator to assist with the introduction of Continuing Medical Education.

The successful candidate will have good shorthand and typing skills, experience of committee organisation and of working with a computer database. An ability to work under pressure with meticulous and critical attention to detail will be essential

Excellent working conditions include 35 hour week on flexible working hours, free lunches, interest free season ticket loan and generous leave entitlement. The Word processing system is Uniplex for which training will be given

For details and an application form please telephone Kim Dawson on 071-262-5425 (no agencies please). Registered Charity No: 213280.

KENSINGTON & CHELSEA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY 4-5 DAYS c£15,000

Voluntary trade and business organisation serving the business community seeks a motivated individual for the above position.

A varied and stimulating role you require excellent sec/admin skills with strong communication and organisational ability

Reporting to the Exec committee, you will be responsible for running the office, liaising extensively with the membership, public bodies and press contacts, co-ordinating events and will assist with the monthly newsletter.

CONTACT: SARAH MONTAGUE 071 823 9991.

MULTI LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

LANGUAGE RECRUITMENT SERVICES LTD

BANKING ON YOUR LANGUAGES IN '94!

SPANISH SECRETARY IN INVESTMENT BANKING - £16-17K + pkg. Busy, varied role supporting & organising 3 Spanish Execs. Excl skills (60+ wpm), fluent Spanish & ability to use initiative & prioritise workload ess.

GERMAN SEC/ASSIST IN PRESTIGIOUS BANK - £15-18K + O/T + bens. Top quality sec for dynamic team, suit well-educated self-starter able to cope in a fast moving environment. Lots of client contact, gd communication skills & team spirit ess.

ITALIAN TEAM SECRETARY - £16-18K + pkg. Dynamic Bilingual Sec for lively, hectic div of major bank. Frequent client liaison & high lang content. Must work well under pressure. Can temp-perm.

DUTCH/GERMAN EXEC PA/SEC - £18K + excl bens. Exec Trilingual Sec to Dir of Int'l Co. High admin content. Responsible post, receive & entertain visitors. Brilliant organisational skills ess!

54-62 REGENT ST, LONDON W1R 5PJ
TEL: 071-287-0424 FAX: 071-437-4141

BUDAPEST

PA/Secretary with fluent HUNGARIAN to work on a one-to-one basis for Partner of this International professional organisation in Budapest. Full secretarial support plus lots of liaison and organisation.

PRAGUE / BRATISLAVA

If you have fluent CZECH or SLOVAK and are an experienced PA/Secretary, our clients in the Czech and Slovak Republics (mainly British and American firms) would very much like to hear from you. Good secretarial skills are required (German a plus).

Multilingual services
071 836 3794
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ARABIC Spkg sec, exc opp, incl Arabic typ, age to 35 to 15.5K. Link Appts 071 408 2150.

BERKS: German-speaking PA/Secretary to busy MD of well-known firm. Lots of organising & liaison. Multilingual Services rec cons 071 836 3794

FRENCH: Maternity cover. Polished Secretary/PA with fast English typing, events organising experience & fluent French for super job next year. Multilingual Services rec cons 071 836 3794

FRENCH (Eng MT) sec/receptionist for varied admin role in Intl bank. Lge client liaison & problem solving 45wpm typ + WP exp. £13.5K + bank bens. Language Matters, Agy 071 930 1811

FAST-MOVING, top-notch executive search consultancy in West End needs a fast-typing, quick-thinking secretary with good French. Working for two dynamic executives in one of the most successful consultancies of its kind, your attention to detail, immaculate presentation of work and absolute discretion will be important. Would suit someone with two years' secretarial experience in investment banking. Eventual involvement in client and candidate liaison are assured. Salary to £19,000. Pls call Sabina on 071-434 4512. CRONE CORKILL MULTILINGUAL Rec Cons.

MULTI LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

MARKETING c£15,000

Dynamic, expanding Int Sales and Marketing arm of manufacturing co, SW London, is seeking a flexible, bilingual Secretary to assist their Chief Exec. Fluency in a second language ess (prel for Eastern European lang) plus good typing and W/Windows and sprdsht exp. Age open.

THE LANGUAGE BUSINESS
Tel: 071-379 3189
(Rec Cons)

FRENCH Bilingual rec/sec Eng MT based West London excellent presentations skills £13,500+benefits. The Language Specialists, Morrow Agy 071 499 3939

FRENCH/Spanish: Tri sec/rec lots of admin, use initiative £14,000 + bens 25 days hols. The Language Specialists, Morrow Agy 071 499 3939

GERMAN Secretary to Insurance. High language & admin content. You will have 3 years exp as secretary, enjoy detailed work, and have S/H 80wpm min. Start Jan 1994. Call Boyce Bilingual 071 287 6060.

GERMAN biling PA/sec (Eng SH) for 2 Dir's of blue chip City co. Run & org busy office incl conference admin. Some translation 22+ £17K+bens. Language Matters Agy 071 930 1811

PERSONNEL Officer/Manager for medium sized city based trading co. Suit part/qual or qual IPM with rel exp in all aspects of pers't incmpnt. Fluent French highly pref. £22k+++neg and Language Matters Agy 071 930 1811

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Whitlock returns to domestic defeat in Manchester

BY COLIN MCQUILLAN

PHILIP Whitlock's lucrative visit to the PSA Super Series finals in Zurich over the weekend proved costly on the domestic front when, on his return to Britain, he lost 9-0, 5-9, 9-10, 9-0, 9-0 to Simon Parke in the all-Manchester top-of-the-table meeting in the SRA National Squash League. Even so, it failed to stop him from leading his Manchester Northern side into pole position in the league.

Northern defeated WF Village Manchester 3-1 at the Village Prestwich leisure hotel to take a four-point lead, the points coming from an increasingly resilient locally-based lower order.

Whitlock, 31, the English champion, who runs a sports retail business in Cheadle, was included in the Super Series play-offs as newly-promoted world No 8 and, after injuries forced Jahangir Khan out of contention, had to wait for the last qualifying match in Zurich late on Sunday night to be certain that he would not take one of the semi-final places.

In fact, it was Peter Marshall, the double-handed England No 1, who qualified in Zurich and went on to remove Rodney Eyles, of Australia, on his way to the final of the Super Series against Jansher Khan, the world champion. Whitlock flew back fatigued from a non-stop run through the Qatar international, world championships and the Super Series finals that may well mark the pinnacle of a long professional career.

Parke, perhaps still smarting from losing opportunities to Whitlock in England's world championship campaign, was fresh, but the rest of the Village squad could not raise a wind against Manchester Northern. Paul Gregory went down to Craig Van der Wath, the South African No 1, who has long been resident in Manchester. Mark Cairns, from Oxford, lost to Paul Lord, a Congleton youngster, who rose to international notice for the first time in Qatar and Karachi last month, and Nick Taylor, of Oldham, went down to the Irish No 1, Derek Ryan, also based in Manchester.

Leekes Wizards, the pre-season favourites, had the forethought to rearrange their home fixtures in Cardiff against Rackets Club and Village when it became obvious that Marshall, their first-string, would be involved in the Zurich series, but they may regret allowing Northern to open a seven-point lead over their fourth position, which may be difficult to reclaim before the league season turns in January.

RESULTS: WF Village Manchester 1, Manchester Northern 3 (S Parke bt P Whitlock 9-0, 5-9, 9-10, 9-0, 9-0; P Gregory lost to C Van der Wath, 9-7, 9-10, 5-9, 7-9; M Cairns lost to P Lord, 5-9, 9-2, 7-9, 0-9; N Taylor lost to D Ryan, 7-9, 10-8, 2-9, 9-7, 7-9) Lingfield 2, ICL-PMD Herts 2 (Lingfield won on games countback; S Meads lost to R Norman, 4-9, 0-9, 9-5, 5-9; P Steel lost to M Chaloner, 6-9, 0-9, 8-10; A Kirkland bt J Welfingo, 9-5, 9-7, 9-4; T Garner bt C Clare, 9-5, 9-4, 9-4

TABLE

	P	W	L	D	Pts
Manr Northern	4	3	0	2	16
WF Village Manr	5	3	1	0	12
Rackets Club	3	2	1	0	11
Leekes Wizards	3	1	0	1	9
ICL-PMD Herts	4	0	2	2	9
Lingfield	4	0	3	1	6

Village folk reap mixed tour harvest



Judy Hill, a keen amateur cyclist, enjoys the tranquillity of the Goudhurst country lanes before the arrival of the Tour de France and its entourage. Photograph: Tony White

David Llewellyn on how people in the sleepy Kent countryside are waking up to the impact cycling's greatest show will have on their lives

Norman armies, Flemish weavers, French iron workers, smugglers; Goudhurst has seen them all. Every year, hoppers and fruit pickers descend on the Kentish village in the autumn to help gather in the harvest.

Local people are used to seeing crocodiles of tourists, their cameras snapping hungrily at aspects of village life. But the multi-national, many-headed serpent that will be the 1994 Tour de France winding its way through Kent on its return to England next July is another matter.

For much of the year, Goudhurst sits peacefully high in the Weald, a rural idyll stirred by adverse weather at harvest time, but rarely shaken where commerce is concerned. The branch of NatWest Bank in a tiny, eccentric building in the village centre, opens for three hours on Tuesdays and Fridays, reinforcing an apparent preference for haymaking to money-making.

There are no plans to open it for an extra day on Wednesday, July 6, but on that day business will be disrupted. The village centre will remain untouched, but an invasion force larger than the population of Goudhurst and numbering 3,000 people of various nationalities, will hit the top side of the village, carefully skirting it and much of its colourful history.

But if the 2,900 residents think they will remain untouched they are mistaken. The passing of the unwieldy circus that is the Tour de France will entail the closure of roads for up to four hours ahead of the arrival of the focus of the column — the 200 or so cyclists. One police officer working to minimise the traffic problems said: "It will be horrendous." There is a bonus, though. Roadworks will be banned on and around the route the week before.

Dave Dobinson, the area traffic engineer for north-west Kent in the county council's highways and transportation department, is liaison officer for the event and watched a few stages on the tour last year.

"We are treating this like a military operation," he said. "The public will be given four weeks' warning of the road closures. The diversion routes will be suitable for larger vehicles, but we have to get all the signs and barriers down as quickly as possible after the race has gone through. That will include collecting up some 15 kilometres of crowd barriers from towns and spectator points along the way. The whole thing promises to be a challenge."

The passage of the heroes of the hour will be measured in seconds rather than minutes, a stream of colour, bodies hunched over handlebars, a blur of effort. Preceding those few precious moments there will have been a lumbering vanguard trumpeting sponsors' names and selling programmes and souvenirs. It is anticipated that this parade of accessories will take 45 minutes to creak past onlookers, appearing probably up to an hour before the competitors charge by. Then there will be more tour clutter, in the shape of support vehicles, ambulances, TV and media, trailing behind the race. After that, the roads will reopen and normal life will resume.

At the moment the tour is far enough in the future to arouse only vague curiosity in the business community. Even the local tourist board appeared relaxed. "We are going to be co-ordinating the districts involved to get the best publicity out of it, but it is early yet. We have not actually formulated plans," a spokesman said.

There have been no advance bookings for accommodation, although there have been a handful of inquiries. And locals are chiefly unaware of, or indifferent to what is about to hit them.

Judy Hill is one exception. She is an employee of the bank serving the village twice a week and as a fanatical cyclist welcomes the news that NatWest will not be opening the Goudhurst branch for an extra day. Her idea of a relaxing holiday is a ten-day thrash by bike from Land's End to John o'Groats at more than 100 miles a day.

Some village business people are beginning to wake up to what is going on. Elvira Dorman's Pied Piper children's boutique plans to start selling cycle shorts and vests. Berry Williams, a newsagent, is talking of stocking up with flags.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has set up a series of meetings with parish and town councils on the 128-mile route which runs from Canterbury to Brighton. "It represents a marvellous opportunity for the region in terms of tourism and commerce," Nigel Bolton, the council's leisure development manager, said. "We will be looking for ideas from communities such as Goudhurst for things they want to do to get on the tour bandwagon."

Nick Martin, Goudhurst restaurateur and wine merchant, is already armed with the route map. "What we'd like to do is get the village as a whole co-ordinated and promote ourselves," he said. "We are not proactive enough in making sure people understand that Kent, and particularly the Weald, is somewhere worth visiting."

There would be greater urgency, or at least awareness, if the caravan was going to pass through the centre of Goudhurst, but the tour authorities deemed the double right-angled bends skirting St Mary's churchyard and its grave of the unknown seventeenth-century pirate as too dangerous.

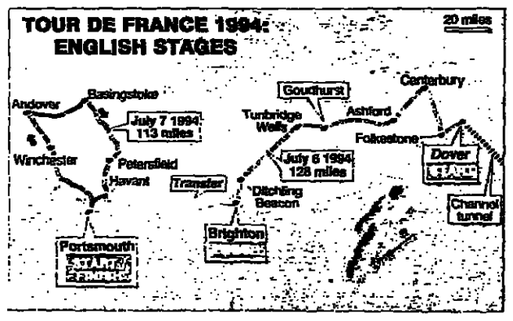
Instead, the whole army will wheel right at the Chequers pub on the edge of the village and pass a few houses before streaming down the hill on their way to Horsmonden, Brenchley and eventually Royal Tunbridge Wells. At least there will be no parking restrictions in the village centre, which is good news on the commercial front, provided spectators and camp followers can be persuaded to stop off there before or after the invasion.

This is one by-pass which would have irritated the former village businessman, William (later Baron) Rootes, who set up a bicycle hire and repair shop in Church House, at the top of the steep High Street. The tour's passing would have represented a money-spinning promotional vehicle. As it was he later moved to nearby Hawkhurst where the massive Rootes motor car empire was conceived.

Across the road from Church House is the Star and Eagle Hotel, originally a monastic house constructed in the thirteenth century and now run by Michel Dimet, a Frenchman.

He admitted that he was not a great fan of cycling, despite his country's passion for the sport, but remembered watching the tour pass though his village in France during his childhood and knew what to expect. "As a boy I watched it, but it is all over so quickly," he said.

"The leaders go by in maybe ten seconds and the rest of the field are not far behind. The whole field lasts only 30 or 40 seconds, they come and are gone before you realise. Then you see the cars and so on for the next half hour. There is always a lot of noise from the spectators and it is very exciting. We are planning on staging some special events. But to tell you the truth I don't even know the precise date yet. I think we'll put on something the day before, then on the day itself and perhaps the day after, making it a sort of French festival or whatever. It will be great fun."



National title under challenge from all directions

BY JOHN HENNESSY

THE British figure skating championships at Basingstoke this evening, sponsored by Peoples Phone, should be enlivened by a fascinating tussle for the women's title.

Just as Charlene von Saher came unexpectedly out of the west (the United States) to challenge for Joanne Conway's title in 1991, so now Natalya Gorbenko-Risk comes out of the east (the Ukraine) to seek the title that von Saher won last year.

Von Saher qualified for Britain on the strength of her birth in Wimbledon to a German mother and Dutch father, before being whisked across the Atlantic hardly out of her swaddling clothes. Gorbenko-Risk qualifies for the championship, though not yet for the British team, by virtue of her marriage to Mark Risk, whom she met while both were involved with the Torvill and Dean show, she as a skater, he as a lighting specialist.

Between them, the two skaters can tot up only two years' residence in this country, but their arrival is timely, as von Saher's predecessor as champion, Conway, has been plagued by injury and forced to retire.

Gorbenko-Risk, 23, is a former champion of the Soviet Union, now living in Greenwich, south London and is trained by David Clements, himself a former British champion, at Alexandra Palace. "She is one of the most exciting skaters to come my way," Clements said. "She does all the triple jumps up to the lutz."

That means that Gorbenko-Risk may have a slight technical edge because of her command of five different triple jumps. Missing from her repertoire is the axel, which anyway is within the scope of only a few women in the world. Von Saher can perform four triple jumps, the loop also eluding her so far.

"But you can never be sure," von Saher said. "In competition, the heart rate goes up and the knees straighten." For that reason, she will play safe in tonight's technical programme, with a triple salchow in the combination, though her trainer, Louis Stong, maintained her triple lutz is better than any man's.

Von Saher, 19 last Saturday, seems a notably more relaxed and bright-eyed person this year and might hope that this will be reflected in her performance. Monotonously too often for her self-esteem, she has been advised to smile more, but, until now at least, concentration on the job in hand has taken precedence over false physiognomy.

Steven Cousins defends the men's title, which seemed unlikely last March. He was so deflated after the world championships that he considered giving up.

The change to a new training team, headed by Doug Leigh in Canada, seems to have worked wonders, however, and the sparkle has returned after a third place in the Skate Canada competition. All he may need now to join the big boys is a consistent triple axel. It's a big "all".

Archive material illuminates non-vintage publishing year

IT has not been a vintage year for sports books. There has been nothing to compare with *Fever Pitch* or *Haunts of the Black Masseur — the Swimmer as Hero*, which were reviewed on the literary pages in 1992. There has also been little of the investigative zeal which meant that *The Lords of the Rings*, despite its flaws, had such an impact in 1992.

The recession has hit publishing hard and there seems to have been fewer books for review. When one discounts many of the valuable statistical and instructional volumes, there has been a scarcity of books of merit. When times are hard, publishers are reluctant to take chances.

Significantly, one of the most compulsive books to read this year was one that relied on archive material. *Great Moments in British Sport* depicts exactly what its subtitle states: *Legendary Triumphs and Dramas Relived*. It begins with the description of the fight in 1860 between Tom Sayers and John Heenan by Denzil Batchelor, whose writing on cricket and boxing distracted me from my school-work 35 years ago, and ends with the report by Rob Hughes, football correspondent of the *The Times*, on the retirement of Brian Clough as manager of Nottingham Forest in April.

In between are cameos of celebrated occasions. Some of them have been extensively recorded, like England's 1966 World Cup victory, David Hemery's gold medal at the 1968 Olympics, Virgina Wade's 1977 Wimbledon win and the Old Trafford Test in 1981, when Botham inspired England to retain the Ashes. Neville Cardus, most felicitous of cricket reporters,

BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS

writes of the 1953 Oval Test: "In sunshine which might have come to us from an August more than a quarter of a century ago, a victory for England over Australia was vociferously celebrated today," while John Rodda catches the surprise of one 1964 Olympic victory in the words: "Every Briton in the national stadium this afternoon watched in fascinated disbelief as the slim form of Miss A. E. Packer took the swift strides to an Olympic gold medal in the world-record time of 2min 01.1sec."

However, the editor, John Lovesey, has not been content simply to cover the most heavily publicised events. The book includes some less obvious pieces, two of them by Lovesey himself. He recalls Tom Blower's swim across the North Channel of the Irish Sea in 1947 and also the prowess of George Hackenschmidt at Olympia in 1906, when professional wrestling was a true sport and not showmanship.

Even Hackenschmidt would have had trouble with Yasuhiro Yamashita, probably the most successful judo fighter in history, with 203 consecutive victories, including the Olympic title in 1984. His techniques and training, which he demonstrated in Britain and is now instilling in the Japanese team, have been splendidly laid out in book form.

☐ *Great Moments in British Sport*, compiled and edited by John Lovesey (Witherby) £15.99.

☐ *The Fighting Spirit of Japan*, by Yasuhiro Yamashita (Ippon Books) £10.99.

JOHN GOODBODY

Rozsa returns to Hungarian fold

BY CRAIG LORD

NORBERT Rozsa has returned to the Hungarian fold, having abandoned plans to become an Australian. As the prodigal son of *Team Szechy*, the national squad that boasts the greatest concentration of talent and success in swimming, the world champion was due to receive a hero's welcome at Budapest airport yesterday.

He was travelling with the Hungarian team, with which he had been training in Perth, Australia, since October. There has been no pressure on Rozsa to return to the fold, according to Tamas Szechy, the coach, who said before leaving Perth: "Norbert is an adult and can make up his own mind. However, I believe it is in his best interests to return home, so I'll help him." The Hungarian federation paid for his passage home.

Gerry Stachewicz, the Australian coach with whom Rozsa had signed a two-year contract, is angry at the time, money and effort he would appear to have wasted, but Rozsa, 21, who won his world 100 metres breaststroke title at Perth in 1991, cites lack of good training partners, financial pressures and family reasons for his change of heart. He is now likely to sign the lucrative sponsorship deal with a Hungarian bank that he left behind left for Australia in March.

He also spoke at the weekend of having been reunited with his father, after 15 years apart, during a holiday in Hungary in September. Before the Olympic Games last year, when he finished second to Mike Barrowman, of the United States, and just ahead of Nick Gillingham, of Britain, in the 200 metres breaststroke, Rozsa was said to have been fostered by Gyorgy Zemplenyi, the team manager.

During his time in Perth, he was well beaten at both 100 and 200 metres by Phil Rogers, the Australian who became world short-course champion at 100 metres and runner-up to Gillingham in the 200 metres.

☐ Bill Furniss, of the Nova Centurion club in Nottingham, has been appointed head coach to the England team for the Commonwealth Games. Barbara Lancaster is team manager, David Hunt the team doctor and Paul Massey the physiotherapist.

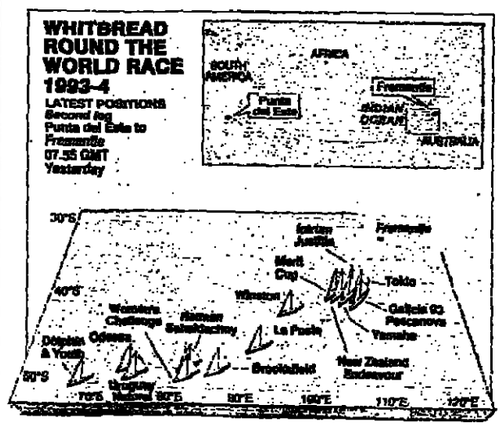
Smith is left breathless as he waits for Dickson to arrive

BY MALCOLM MCKEAG

LAWRIE Smith's carefully nurtured lead in the Whitbread Round the World Race hung by a slender thread last night as Intrum Justitia crept through frustrating calms towards Fremantle, Western Australia, and the finish of the second leg.

Smith's once comfortable lead of more than 60 miles over his rival, Chris Dickson in Tokio.is now just 20 miles. Worse than that, with virtually no wind to help him reposition Intrum quickly, Smith is powerless to defend his position against the New Zealander should Dickson find breeze and begin to sail around the all-but-stationary race leader.

The tension aboard Intrum can only be guessed. It has led the Whitbread 60 class since the start of this 7,558-mile leg on November 13, and has led the entire fleet since passing the King Edward Islands a week later. The race has become a taut tactical duel, using Nelsonian battle guile combined with modern technology.



Smith can track the moves of his rival by radar and by satellite-reported positions, but can use only his sails and what breeze he can find to stay between Dickson and the finish, now fewer than 400 miles away.

The yachts are likely to be within sight of one another soon, and the scene is set for a repeat of Smith's dramatic finish against Pierre Fehlmann on the same leg of this race four years ago. Then, it was Smith who closed at the finish, finally passing Fehlmann 100 yards short of the line with an audacious manoeuvre borrowed straight from the America's Cup. This time Smith's rival is a former world champion match-racer.

The two must also keep an eye on Ross Field aboard Yamaha, 46 miles astern of Dickson: not yet a danger but already a threat. Last night, Smith and Dixon were creeping ahead at 2.4 and 4.2 knots respectively. Smith's dilemma is whether to keep Intrum in whatever weather pattern the New Zealander sails in (if he can), or risk all by seeking his own, fresh breeze.

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Becker bows out of cup with barely a whimper

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN MUNICH

THE Grand Slam Cup, the absurdly extravagant party that is supposed to mark the end of the season, is filled with guests who seem to be either reluctant to attend or eager to leave. Not even Boris Becker deigned to extend his first appearance here beyond 100 minutes.

Previously, he had not even bothered to turn up to compete for the grotesquely lavish prize-money on offer since the event was inaugurated in 1990. This year was different. As his new manager, Axel Meyer-Wolden, is also the promoter, he felt compelled to take part. Unlike his departure, his entrance was dramatic.

Before bowing to Wayne Ferreira, a South African who had never beaten him before, Becker announced that he had officially severed links with Eric Jelen, his ally and coach. That, in itself, was scarcely noteworthy. Germany's most popular figure has recently changed mentors more often than he has won grand slam titles.

But the parting of the friends was less than amicable. Indeed, Jelen felt it was discourteous. He arrived here at the weekend to supervise his pupil's practice session and found that someone else was instead giving advice. If only momentarily, he had been replaced by Nick Bollettieri.

Becker has been training at Bollettieri's camp in Florida, provoking speculation that the pair may be forming a partnership. That has yet to be confirmed. If so, though, it would be the eighth alliance to involve the former Wimbledon champion within the last three turbulent and comparatively unproductive years.

Bob Brett, Tomas Smid and Gunther Bresnick once acted as coaches and John McEnroe, on a part-time basis, still does. Niki Pilic, the captain of the triumphant German Davis Cup team, no longer helps during the more important tournaments and Ion Tiriac, his manager, was discarded five months ago.

The only person to stay consistently by Becker's side is his fiancée, Barbara Feltus, who is to give birth to their first child next month. It can be no coincidence that the seventh seed here is also losing contact with the top of the rankings for the first time in his career.

By his standards, the year has been particularly undistinguished. He has collected only two comparatively trivial titles, in Qatar and Milan, and failed to qualify for the Association of Tennis Professionals world championship, which featured the best eight players in the world. Yesterday, for the seventh time, he was beaten in the first round.

The competitive juices were flowing, unlike in the opening two feeble mis-matches, but the ability was flawed. He served 13 thunderous aces but ten double faults, three of them in the game that cost him the first set. Earlier, Becker, leading 3-2, failed to convert any of five break points.

"That was the turning point," he said. "I haven't been able to play or concentrate well for the last few months and I'm glad that the worst year of my professional career is now over." He expressed an intention to resume in February at the indoor tournament in Marseilles.

Ferreira, a steady competitor, broke midway through the second set and maintained his advantage to earn not only a meeting with Stefan Edberg, the second seed, in the next round but also at least $262,500 (about £177,000), the prize for reaching the last eight.

The financial incentive did not appear to be excessively appealing to Todd Martin. He had not played for a month and conceded that he regarded his first visit to Germany has "a holiday". Still, it was worth the minimum effort. Every second he was on court was worth more than $25 to him.

He broke Edberg only once, when the Swede was serving for the match at 5-1. Neither Alexander Volkov, who committed no fewer than 30 unforced errors, nor Magnus Larsson, the other victim in the tedious sequence of straightforward defeats, was any more competitive.

FIRST ROUND: P Korda (Cz) bt A Volkov (Russ) 6-2, 6-3; S Edberg (Swe) bt T Martin (US) 6-3, 6-2; W Ferreira (SA) bt B Becker (Ger) 7-5, 6-4, S Bruguera (Sp) bt M Larsson (Swe) 6-3, 6-4.

☐ Pat Cash, the former Wimbledon champion, yesterday made a low-key but successful comeback to tournament play after being sidelined for more than a year by a knee injury.

Cash, the Wimbledon singles champion in 1987, partnered South Africa-born David Adams in a first-round doubles match in the South Australian grass-court championships in Adelaide. They defeated Paul Kilderry and Brent Larkham 6-3, 6-2.

Frechette celebrates golden appeal





Frechette learns of her not-quite-synchronised gold medal, 18 months after being awarded a silver in the Barcelona Games

"BUT it's not *fair*, sir." That was the story of my and no doubt everybody else's childhood, bringing the inevitable, smug and booming reply: "It's not a fair world, Barnes."

It takes someone of the calibre of Sylvie Frechette to reverse the course of history. She won a silver medal in the Olympic Games in Barcelona 18 months ago, but was convinced it was not fair, sir. And sir has relented: sir has gone for retrospective fairness: sir has gone all out for revisionism. Sylvie Frechette was this week awarded the gold medal.

Sylvie Frechette, is a synchronised swimmer. Frechette, of the United States, came second in the gloriously oxymoronic synchronised swimming solo event. She said all along that there was a judging error; someone had pressed the wrong button. The International Olympic Committee finally decided this week that she was right all along. Sylvie gets her gold, though Kristen Babb-Sprague, of Canada, the woman she beat in the revised version of history, will keep her erroneously-awarded gold medal. Late result: 1, Frechette (fair); 1, Babb-Sprague (unfair).

Simon Barnes looks at how Olympic history has been rewritten in the interests of fairness

So time can indeed be put into reverse, if you get incontrovertible evidence to prove that something that happened was not fair, sir. All of sporting history will now need to be re-written.

For a start, England were never knocked out of the World Cup in 1986. That was not fair, if you like; Maradona scored the unforgettable Hand of God goal and went on to win the tournament. So perhaps it would be only fair to award thw World Cup to England retrospectively.

A bit dangerous, that. Now the Germans will say they won the World Cp in 1966: the Russian linesman gave the vital third goal, but nobody has ever been truly convinced about his geometry.

Germans may think it would be fair if they won the 1966 World Cup retrospectively; but unquestionably, it is not fair that they reached the final in 1982. They beat France in the semi-final because Schumacher, the German goalkeeper, made a homicidal assault on Battiston. The referee did not see it, or perhaps did not believe it was happening: replays show that Schumacher should have been sent off on the spot. France should then have won this semi-final, so perhaps the revised version of history gives them the World Cup instead of Italy.

Let us also revise this year's NatWest Trophy final. Warwickshire won off the final ball, but, earlier in their innings, they were awarded two runs in error: Stephenson saved a four, as the television showed quite clearly, but the umpire believed erroneously that he had handled the ball from the wrong side of the boundary and awarded four, instead of two. Those runs would have changed the result: so well done, Sussex.

Or again, in Barbados in 1990. Bailey played and missed; Dujon took it; the umpire, Barker, walked off to square leg for the start of the next over. Richards then went berserk: charging the umpire, cracking his fingers and screaming. Barker hastily revised his decision and gave Bailey out.

England would have saved that Test if a single batsman had stayed with Russell. Had they saved the match, they would have gone into the last match of the series 1-0 up: as it was, they lost the series 2-1. Not fair, sir. So, revising history, England drew both match and the series.

Oh, and England are going to the World Cup finals after all. Koeman was sent off for that foul on Platt in the match against Holland. Koeman was unable to score that decisive goal, being in the bath at the time.

It was not fair, it really was not, but it is, indeed, an unfair world, Barnes. Neither sport nor life is fair. The difference is that sport is supposed to be. But not all the contrivances and rules and referees and umpires and touch-judges and linesmen and third umpires can make even the utterly controlled and contrived world of sport fair. What chance has life got?

Marshall poised to return success to Britain

BY COLIN MCQUILLAN

PETER Marshall's achievement in meeting Jansher Khan, the world champion, in the final of the PSA Super Series play-offs in Zurich last night heralds a new era of international squash in which British players are likely to enjoy the best successes since the days of Jonah Barrington 20 years ago.

The Nottingham-based England No 1, just 22, has carried his unique double-handed style to the top of the game just as established stars are starting to slip. He was third seed in Zurich behind Jansher and Brett Martin, of Australia. Chris Dittmar and Rodney Martin, the world No 2 and No 3, were at home in Australia nursing serious injuries that have dogged them all year. Jahangir Khan broke down in Zurich with hamstring problems while another leading Australian, Rodney Eyles, could not survive Marshall's relentless straight game in the semi-finals.

Eyles lost 15-13, 9-15, 15-9, 15-10 in 76 minutes of two-fisted Marshall battering, raising a counter-attack only at the very end of the first game, briefly leading 13-12, and in the second, when he played brilliantly into the front court. By the end, though, he was chasing despairingly into the deep corners in pursuit of the Englishman's all-too-predictable, but all-too-destructive, straight driving.

Jansher took the other semi-final 15-5, 17-14, 16-17, 15-6 in 61 minutes from Brett Martin, seeming to enjoy the mid-match interplay with one of the game's greatest exponents, even allowing a 10-13 lead in the second game and giving up three match balls in the third. However, he was all efficiency to take the fourth.

There has been little enjoyment for the world champion in recent encounters with Marshall, however. In the semi-finals of the Qatar International last month, Jansher was forced to reach for a desperate and chancy all-out assault to regain control of the fifth game and there were similar problems at various stages of their meetings since, two in the world championships in Karachi and one in the Zurich qualifiers.

The world champion went into the Super Series final as clear favourite, but there was little doubt about whose breath he could feel on the back of his neck as he set out once more to reinforce his domination of the world game.

RESULTS: Semi-finals: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt B Martin (Aus), 15-5, 17-14, 16-17, 15-6; P Marshall (Eng) bt R Eyles (Aus), 15-13, 9-15, 15-9, 15-10.

Academy future appears bright

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE launch of the Rugby Football League Academy (under-19) League prompted one of the biggest splits in the game. Two years on, peace reigns and the future has rarely appeared so bright.

This was recognised yesterday by a government award, under the Business Sponsorship Incentive Scheme for Sport, for the setting up of an Academy foundation to assist development of young players. It is part of a £135,000 package with Wigan-based JJB Sports, which includes sponsorship of the Great Britain Academy team over three years and a tour of Australia and New Zealand next summer.

Differences over the running of youth rugby between the professional and amateur governing bodies have been patched up. Academy sides at professional clubs are feeding a stream of fresh talent into the game. Jason Robinson and Andrew Farrell, the Wigan teenagers and the Academy's outstanding graduates, have already achieved full international honours.

☐ Billy McGinty, the Wigan and Britain forward, is to make his comeback in the reserve team on Friday, nine months after a knee operation, while Gary Sanderson, Warrington's former under-21 international, has been cleared to resume his career after initially being advised to retire because of neck trouble.

☐ Sheffield Eagles, the first division club, yesterday parted company with Bill Gardner, their Australian coach, after just five months.

Board delays decision over Hide

BY SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

HERBIE Hide, the British heavyweight boxing champion, from Norwich, must wait another five weeks to find out whether he can carry on calling himself champion.

After doubts were raised about his eligibility last March, the British board of control met yesterday to consider the matter. After a 45-minute discussion, it was decided to adjourn until January 11. Barry Hearn, Hide's manager, has promised to provide answers to specific questions about Hide's nationality, answers which can only be given by the Home Office.

"We are dealing with technicalities here," John Morris, the secretary of the board, said. "Barry will find out the definitive answers from the Home Office." The board, too, will be making enquiries.

The situation arose when Henry Akinwande, the European and Commonwealth heavyweight champion, who is managed by Mickey Duff, issued a writ challenging Hide's eligibility at the time he won the vacant title against Michael Murray in Dagenham last February.

Hearn has since produced papers from the Home Office to say that Nigeria-born Hide, who was adopted by British foster parents when he came to Norwich as a boy, was granted British citizenship as a minor. "It's confirmation of our position from day one that Herbie is British champion," Hearn said. "We're not going to let Duff or Akinwande get the publicity they don't deserve. If a title is going to be lost, it's got to be lost in the ring. I think the board are unanimous that they want Herbie to be British champion but are awaiting specific wording from the Home Office. To manipulate a situation like this is despicable. Akinwande will never have the pleasure of fighting Herbie. That's his punishment."

Hide was nominated by the European Boxing Union as challenger for Akinwande's title but, on Monday, refused to take part in the negotiations. He will defend his World Boxing Council (WBC) international title against Jimmy Thunder, of New Zealand, at York Hall, Bethnal Green, on January 11 and then seek a title bout with Michael Bentt, the World Boxing Organisation champion.

Akinwande has started legal proceedings against the board and if the British title is declared vacant on January 11, Duff hopes to stage a bout between Akinwande and Frank Bruno for the three titles.

☐ Paul Hodkinson has sustained a cut eye sparring and pulled out of his bout with John Davison for the vacant British featherweight title in Manchester on December 18. Hodkinson said: "I would be taking a big risk if my eye wasn't 100 per cent."

Lazio deny Gascoigne for sale

IT WAS another normal day in the Paul Gascoigne fantasy world yesterday, with Leeds joining the list of clubs who have been linked with the *enfant terrible* and Lazio denying that the player was for sale anyway (Peter Ball writes).

The latest round of rumour started last week with the report that Gino Santin, the London restaurateur, friend of Terry Venables, and occasional football "fixer", had been appointed by Lazio to sell Gascoigne back to England, the Italians presumably believing nobody else would want him. Yesterday, however, Lazio denied the story.

"Paul Gascoigne is not going to be sold by Lazio at any price," Enrico Bendoni, the club's general manager, said. "He is simply not for sale." Santin believes otherwise, and last week approached Blackburn Rovers, Newcastle United and Manchester United. Yesterday, it emerged that Leeds had also been involved.

Manchester United and Newcastle have shown no interest. If Gascoigne is to be sold, and Bendoni's rejection of the idea may not be the final word with Lazio in a volatile state, Blackburn seem the most likely candidates.

The arrival of Leeds in the picture was surprising, since the club was forced to sell David Batty only six weeks ago. Leslie Silver, the Leeds chairman, initally sounded bullish on the subject, but Howard Wilkinson, the manager, was more cautious yesterday.

"We were contacted along with a number of clubs and asked if we would be interested," Wilkinson said. "My reaction was that I would not say outright that I wasn't interested, but obviously a lot of questions would have to be answered if it got to that stage."

Not the least of those questions would concern Gascoigne's fitness and his mental preparedness. "My main aim at the moment is to prove to myself and to Lazio that I can do it in Italy," he said yesterday. If he does so, then Bendoni's insistence that he stays will be fulfilled. But time is running out.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Dallas 23 Philadelphia 17.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Utah 103 New York 96, Seattle 103 Washington 96

CRICKET

TOUR MATCH: Melbourne: South Africans 261 and 178 (J Rhodes 59; C Howard 5-42); Victoria 330-8 dec (B Hodge 80, D Ramshaw 71, D Fleming 54 not out) and 110-4. Victoria won by 6 wickets.

FOOTBALL

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Crystal Palace 1 Queens Park Rangers 2; Millwall 2 Tottenham 2.

SCHOOLS MATCH: Alleyn's 2, Wilson's 1.

Late results on Monday

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Arsenal 1 Tottenham Hotspur 1

FA TROPHY: Third qualifying round, replay: Bashley 3 Dorchester 0

FA VASE: Second round, second replay: Banstead 1, Newport IoW 1.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Chelsea 5 Portsmouth 1

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Second division: Stoke 1 Huddersfield 0

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Cardiff 2 Harefield 0; Brighton 1 Wokingham 0; Gillingham 1 Swindon 2; Reading 0 Bristol City 1; Watford 1 Aston Villa 3; Everton 0 Grimsby 2, Nottingham For 3 Nuneaton 1.

DUTCH LEAGUE: SC Heerenveen 1 Ajax 4. Leading positions: 1, Ajax played 16, 26pts; 2, Feyenoord 16, 28; 3, Vitesse Arnhem 15, 20.

GOLF

LA QUINTA, California: US PGA Tour qualifying tournament: Qualifiers (US unless stated): 415: T Armstrong, D Stockton Jr, R Freeman. 416: J Woodland, P Jordan, J Parnevik (Swe). 417: J Rassett. 419: M Hatalsky, C Dennis. 420: D Paulson. 421: G Day, Y Mizumaki (Japan), T Barranger, S Rintoul, S Gotsche, D Feherty (GB), B Burns. 422: T Level, S Stricker, J Wilson, G Boros, P Goydos, T Simpson. 423: M Wurtz, D Pride. 424: S Brown, M Heinen, R Waldhar, P Stankowski, B Tolosa, D A Russell (GB). 425: S Lamontagne, B Kratzert, B Britton, D Reese, E Kirby. 426: C Pavleprop, R Boldt, S Michael, M Brisky, C Kite, B Landon, J Furyk, B King, T Garner, P Tataurangi. Non-qualifier: 431: R Rafferty

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Detroit 6 Winnipeg 2; Montreal 4 Vancouver 3 (OT), Calgary 6 Ottawa 1.

ICE SKATING

PHILADELPHIA: Pro-am challenge (US unless stated). Men: 1, B Boitano 1.5, 2, S Hamilton 3.5, 3, P Wylie 4.0. Women: 1, N Kemgan 1.5, 2, N Bobek 3.0, 3, C Kadavy 4.5. Pairs: 1, J Meno and T Sand 1.5; 2, K Courtland and T Reynolds 3.0, 3, N and W Seybold 4.5. Ice dance: 1, R Roca and G Sur (Russ) 1.5, 2, E Punsalan and J Swallow 3.0, 3, S Wynne and R Witherby 4.5

REAL TENNIS

LEAMINGTON: Camkin Trophy doubles championship. Semi-finals: C Wade and W Husselby bt J Snow and P Muddyman 6-3, N Jury and N Terry bt M McMurrugh and D Allsop 6-2. Final: Wade and Husselby bt Jury and Terry 6-2.

RUGBY UNION

UNIVERSITY MATCHES: Oxford 20 Cambridge 8 (at Twickenham), Oxford Under-21 10 Cambridge Under-21 12 (at Stoop Memorial Ground).

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: First division: Bridgend 15 Neath 37.

COURAGE LEAGUES: Leading scorers: First division: 81: J Callard (Bath; 2 tries, 13 conversions, 15 penalty goals). 80: R Andrew (Wasps; 2t, 8c, 17pg, 1 dropped goal). 78: P Grayson (Northampton; 2t, 6c, 17pg; 1dg). 69: J Harris (Leicester; 1t, 5c, 10pg, 8dg). 66: K Bray (Harlequins; 3c, 20pg). 59: M Tainton (Bristol, 7c, 15pg). 42: S Langford (Orrell; 3c, 12pg). 37: P Burke (London Irish, 2c, 10pg, 1dg).

Second division: 88: J Stabler (West Hartlepool, 1t, 15c, 17pg, 1dg) 86: R Liley (Wakefield, 1t, 9c, 21pg). 78: G Gregory (Nottingham; 1t, 1c, 20pg, 2dg). 67: P Rutledge (Otley, 2t, 3c, 17pg) 60: M Mapletoft (Rugby; 4t, 5c, 8pg, 1dg). 53: P Turner (Sale, 10c, 10pg, 1dg). 48: A Tunnicliffe (Samaritans, 1t, 2c, 13pg) 43: S Swindells (Waterloo, 2c, 13pg). 38: A Kerr (Moseley; 4c, 10pg).

Third division: 68: M Livesey (Richmond; 1t, 12c, 8pg, 2dg). 48: J Grayshon (Morley; 6c, 9pg, 3dg). 47: A Green (Exeter; 1t, 6c, 10pg). 42: A Finnie (Bedford; 6c, 9pg, 1dg) 39: P Robin (Rosslyn Park; 2t, 4c, 4pg). 27: A Parker (Fylde; 3c, 7pg), R Angell (Coventry, 6c, 4pg, 1dg). 20: M Friday (Blackheath, 4t); B Hanavan (Fylde; 4t); V Turner (Bedford; 4t); B Whetstone (Bedford; 4t); D Woodman (Coventry; 4t)

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Uefa Cup
Third round, second leg
Internazionale v Norwich (2.0) .....

FA Carling Premiership
Aston Villa v Sheffield Wednesday (7.45) .....
Chelsea v Wimbledon (7.45) .....
Liverpool v QPR (7.45) .....
Manchester City v Everton (7.45) .....
Newcastle v Coventry City (7.45, all ticket) .....
Southampton v Ipswich .....
West Ham v Leeds (7.45) .....

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
Leicester v Crystal Palace (7.45) .....
Scottish League
Premier division
Hearts v Motherwell .....

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Horwich v Emley

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE (7.0 unless stated). First division: Manchester Utd v York; Nottingham Forest v Sheff Utd. Second division: Blackpool v Barnsley; Hull v Preston (7.30), Port Vale v Oldham; Tranmere v Mansfield; West Bromwich Albion v Scunthorpe.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal v Watford (2.0); Brighton v West Ham (7.15); Charlton v Oxford Utd; Ipswich v Southampton; Luton v Swindon (2.0). League Cup: Bournemouth v Yeovil, Exeter v Torquay (7.0); Hereford v Cardiff (2.0).

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Dr Martens Cup: Second round: Evesham Utd v Gloucester City.

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Bognor Regis v Billericay. Second division: Edgware Town v Chertsey.

BUDWEISER CUP: Semi-final: Clitonville v Arde (7.45)

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Tennants Floodlit Trophy: Holker Old Boys v Penrith.

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Birmingham City v Peterborough United, Tottenham Hotspur v Stoke City.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Les Phillips Cup: Glastonbury v Welton Rovers, Saltash United v Torrington, Wellington v Barnstaple.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Chesterts v Newmarket

RUGBY UNION

INSURANCE CORPORATION LEAGUE: First division: Lansdowne v Wanderers (7.0).

CLUB MATCH: Abertillery v Cheltenham (7.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Second division: Ryedale York v Huddersfield.

SQUASH

ZURICH: PSA Super Series: Semi-finals: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt B Martin (Aus) 15-5, 17-14, 16-17, 15-6; P Marshall (Eng) bt R Eyles (Aus) 15-13, 9-15, 15-9, 15-10

NOTTINGHAM: Club La Santa British junior championships: Finals: Under-23: C Jackman (Norfolk) bt J Martin (Northumbria) 9-7, 9-7, 9-3. Under-16: L McKenna (Scot) bt L Hamilton (Scot) 10-8, 9-3, 7-9, 9-4.

SPEED SKATING

HAMAR, Norway: World Cup: Men: 10,000m: 1 J O Koss (Nor) 13min 44.61sec; 2 R Ritsma (Holl) 13:47.14; 3 K Storelid (Nor) 13:59.92.

TABLE TENNIS

WORLD RANKINGS: Men: 1, J-O Waldner (Swe), 2, J-M Saive (Bel); 3, J-P Gatien (Fr), 4, Wang Tao (China); 5, Ma Wenge (China); 6, Kim Taek Soo (S Kor); 7, A Grubba (Pol); 8, P Karlsson (Swe); 9, Li Gun Sang (China); 10, J Roseknopf (Ger). British placing: 13, Chen Xinhua. Women: 1, Deng Yaping (China); 2, Qiao Hong (China); 3, Hyun Jung Hwa (S Kor); 4, Gao Jun (China); 5, Chen Zihe (China); 6, Li Bun Hui (N Kor); 7, Chen Jing (Taiwan); 8, Chai Po Wa (HK); 9, Yu Sun Bok (N Kor), 10, Tang Weiyi (China).

YACHTING

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE (positions at 13.56GMT, with miles to go to Fremantle): Whitbread 60 class: 1, Intrum Justitia (L Smith, Eur) 392; 2, Toleo (C Dickson, NZ) 413; 3, Yamaha (R Field, NZ) 469; 4, Galicia 93 Pescanova (J de la Gandara, Sp) 590; 5, Winston (B Butterworth, US) 840; 6, Brookfield (G Mauro, It) 1,538; 7, Heiman Sahadachny (E Piston, Ukr) 1,577, 8, Women's Challenge (D Riley, US) 1,602; 9, Odessa (A Verbo, Ukr) 1,854, 10, Dolphin & Youth Challenge (M Humphries, GB) 2,260

Maxi class: 1, NZ Endeavour (G Dalton, NZ) 471; 2, Mani Cup (P Fehlmann, Switz) 477; 3, La Poste (D Malle, Fr) 1,195; 4, Uruguay Natural (G Vanzani, Uruj) 1,942.

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Warne puts dispirited New Zealand to flight

FROM PETER ROEBUCK IN BRISBANE

NEITHER sultry skies nor a defiant, if adventurous, innings from Ken Rutherford could deny Australia victory by an innings and 96 runs in the third Test match and a 2-0 triumph in a series that fizzed at first and then fell flat.

New Zealand were overwhelmed. Rain delayed proceedings for 55 minutes, returned within an hour of the last wicket falling and might have saved a more resolute side. Alas, New Zealand could not summon the spirit of Kline and Mackay or Bailey and Watson long ago, and their resistance lacked conviction. Once Tony Blain had missed a straight one during a lively spell from McGrath the end was not far away, though the pitch was still arid perfection itself.

As usual, the New Zealanders were all at sea against Warne: Blain and Patel were reduced to a series of kicks and lunges, a tactic that did not impress Warne, who behaves like an enraged goose every time an appeal is rejected.

Happily Patel received his comeuppance when he shouldered arms and was bowled between his legs by Warne, operating from round the wicket. South Africa beware — Craig Howard, younger than Warne and not much inferior, has just bowled Victoria to an easy victory over them. South Africa's display in a six-wicket defeat prompted Dean Jones, the Victoria captain, to warn they would be "destroyed" by Warne in the Test series if they do not improve their technique against spin.

Danny Morrison's appearance at the crease provoked much interest, for he had not troubled the scorers on four previous visits. Overnight he had vowed not to bother taking a bat out with him, and team-mates had nicknamed him Audi (four circles) and were eager to name him Olympic (five).

After a somewhat hazardous period, during which the bat was put to little use, Morrison finally drove a single off McGrath and duly shook hands with opponents and waved to a crowd of 679. A total of 20,934 watched the match. Morrison promptly danced out to drive Warne to long-on and, what is more, carried his bat.

Rutherford, meanwhile, had been driving and pulling fluently, and playing Warne with "soft" hands, a rare sight. He had asked his team to fight and plainly knew he had to lead the way. For 201 minutes he held firm and it took the second new ball to undo him, its steeper bounce causing a hook to be lifted to backward square leg. Rutherford's game innings had been to no avail.

McGrath bowled a 13-over spell, broken by lunch, and in it he found pace and movement, late and mostly into the bat. For the first time, he looked every inch a Test-match bowler.

Defeat for New Zealand was not far away. Doull hit cleanly, passed 500 runs in his first-class career, and then was caught at slip as a leg break turned across him, giving Warne his eighteenth wicket of the series, the most by an Australian against New Zealand. Warne was later named man of the match and series, and rightly so, for he was superb, as were the Waughs and, here, McDermott. Eleven minutes later De Groen edged a cut onto his stumps and it was over.

Australia will be hard to beat when England play them next winter because their team is powerful and their reserves impressive. And England, pitifully, are still complaining about damaged balls, still tolerating university cricket and other softnesses, still following false trails, still treating as heroes those men of the Eighties that brought them down, still allowing old minds to rule the roost.

England must go in pursuit of competitiveness and excellence or else they will be swamped in Australia. A winter spent watching local club and youth cricket would benefit many officials. Australia can be beaten. They are not above cockiness of the sort that can bring a team to its knees. They have named a squad for the World Series Cup, the triangular one-day tournament which also involves South Africa, that includes five opening batsmen; it is an insular party that hints at a strain of arrogance and complacency, characteristics that denied Australia victory in their World Cup campaign.

SCOREBOARD

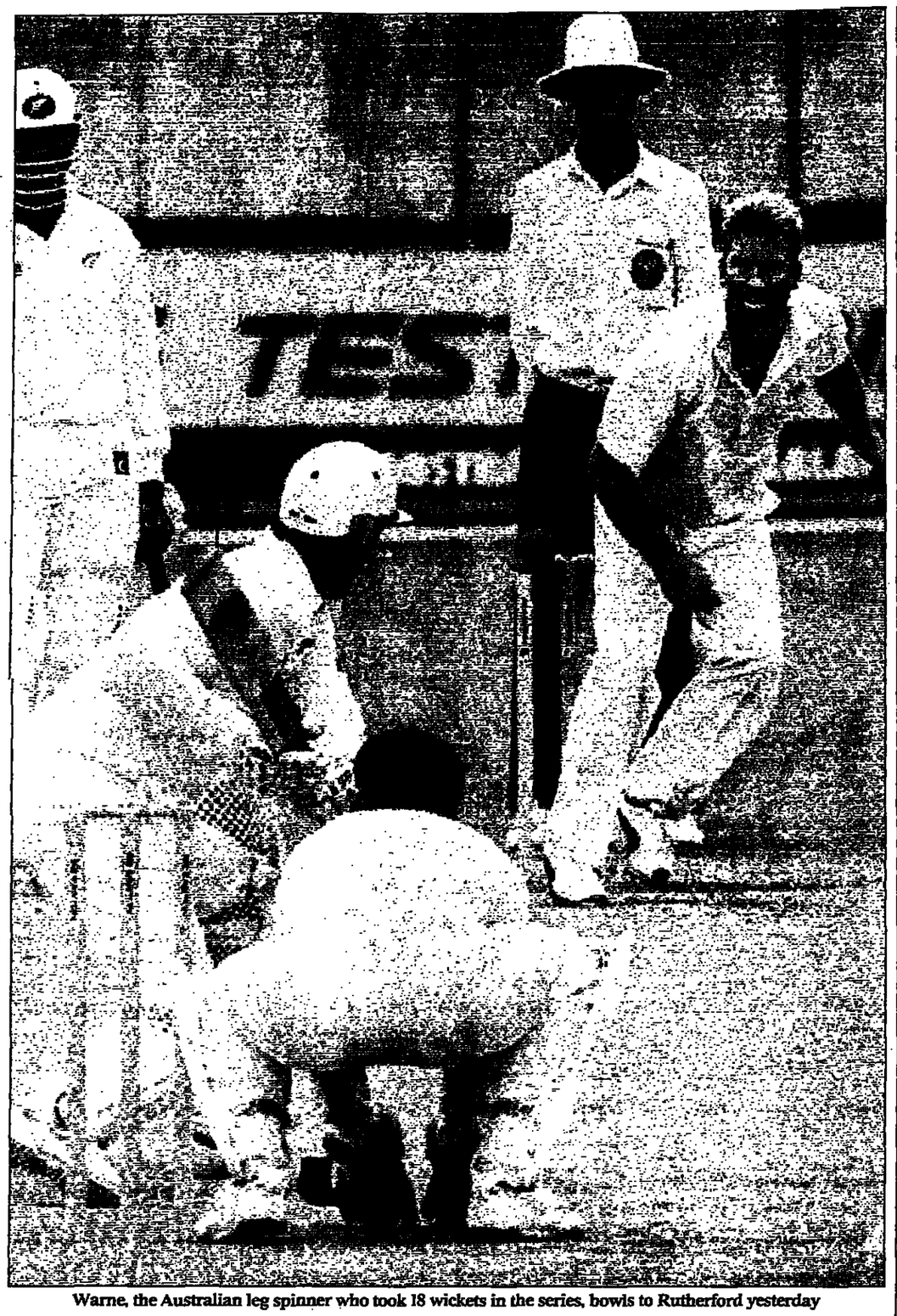
NEW ZEALAND: First Innings 233 (A H Jones 56; C J McDermott 4-39, S K Warne 4-66).

Second Innings

B A Pocock c Healy b McDermott	11
B A Young b Warne	53
A H Jones c Border b Warne	15
*K R Rutherford c Warne b McGrath	86
M J Greatbatch lbw b McDermott	2
C L Cairns c Healy b McGrath	16
†T E Blain b McGrath	18
D N Patel b Warne	3
D K Morrison not out	20
S B Doull c Taylor b Warne	24
R P De Groen b May	6
Extras (b 7, lb 12, nb 5)	24
Total	278

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-34, 2-80, 3-81, 4-84, 5-138, 6-167, 7-216, 8-229, 9-265.
BOWLING: McDermott 23-4-63-2; McGrath 21-1-68-3; May 16-3-41-1, Warne 35-11-58-4, M E Waugh 9-1-30-0.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 607 for 6 dec (S R Waugh 147 not out, A R Border 105).
Man of the match: S K Warne.
Man of the series: S K Warne.



Warne, the Australian leg spinner who took 18 wickets in the series, bowls to Rutherford yesterday

FINAL TEST MATCH AVERAGES

Australia batting and fielding

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	Ct/st
S R Waugh	3	3	2	216	147*	216.00	1	1
M A Taylor	3	4	1	286	142*	95.33	1	5
D C Boon	3	4	1	262	106	87.33	1	3
S K Warne	3	2	1	85	74*	85.00	—	4
M J Slater	3	4	0	305	168	76.25	1—	
P R Reiffel	2	2	1	74	51	74.00	—	
M E Waugh	3	3	0	215	111	71.66	1	3
I A Healy	3	3	1	129	113*	64.50	1	13/1
A R Border	3	3	0	181	105	60.33	1	3

ALSO PLAYED: C J McDermott (3 matches) 35, G D McGrath (2 matches) 0 T B A May played in 2 matches but did not bat (3st)

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	BB
S K Warne	151.3	49	305	18	16.94	6-31
M E Waugh	48	17	94	5	18.80	1-7
T B A May	93.3	33	202	9	22.44	5-65
C J McDermott	133	39	340	12	28.32	4-39
S R Waugh	18	3	41	1	41.00	1-10
G D McGrath	96	26	253	6	42.17	3-66
P R Reiffel	48	6	141	2	70.50	2-75

ALSO BOWLED: A R Border 2-2-0-0

New Zealand batting and fielding

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	Ct/st
A H Jones	3	6	—	324	143	54.00	1	3
K R Rutherford	3	6	—	250	86	41.66	—	2
T E Blain	3	5	1	185	42*	41.25	—	4
C L Cairns	2	3	—	99	78	33.00	—	
B A Pocock	3	6	—	97	34	16.17	—	1
D N Patel	3	6	1	76	20	15.20	—	3
M L Su'a	2	3	1	25	14*	12.50	—	
M J Greatbatch	3	6	—	67	35	11.17	—	1
S B Doull	2	4	—	35	24	8.75	—	2
R P De Groen	2	4	2	12	6	6.00	—	
D K Morrison	3	5	1	20	20*	5.00	—	2

PLAYED IN ONE MATCH: M D Crowe 42, 31*; B A Young 53, 38; C Z Harris 4, 0; W Watson 0*.

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	BB
C L Cairns	65	11	253	5	50.60	4-113
S B Doull	54	5	204	3	68.00	2-105
R P De Groen	82	23	233	3	77.66	2-113
M L Su'a	63.5	5	345	3	81.66	2-72
D N Patel	103	11	384	4	96.00	1-37
D K Morrison	126	16	422	3	140.66	2-113

ALSO BOWLED: W Watson 34-11-52-1; A H Jones 2-0-6-0; B A Pocock 2-0-10-0; C Z Harris 2-0-18-0

Sri Lanka Test may be delayed by rain

THE start of the inaugural Test match between Sri Lanka and West Indies in Moratuwa today may be delayed because the ground is saturated following torrential rain.

"It looks very, very wet and I can't see us starting on time," Richie Richardson, the West Indies captain, said. He is also concerned about the condition of the pitch. "I am not an expert, but it doesn't look like a wicket I would like to see for a Test match," he said.

Dulip Samaraweera, the new cap, will open the Sri Lankan batting while West Indies must decide whether to play a second spinner in Roger Harper.

SRI LANKA (from): A Ranatunga (captain), R S Mahanama, D Samaraweera, H P Tillekeratne, P A de Silva, S T Jayasuriya, R S Kalpage, P Dassanayake, G P Wickremasinghe, M Muralitharan, S D Anurasiri, D Liyanage, A H Wickremaratne, C Vaaz.

WEST INDIES (from): R B Richardson (captain), D L Haynes, P V Simmons, B C Lara, K L T Arthurton, C L Hooper, J R Murray, C E L Ambrose, C A Walsh, W K M Benjamin, R A Harper, A C Cummins

Crawley's presence marks him out

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

JOHN Crawley is the sort of young man upon whom expectation sits lightly. Yesterday, Crawley was showing off his skills on the golf course at Sun City, enjoying a rest day after the 22-year-old had scored 88 in his first representative innings to steer England A to victory in their opening tour match against Western Transvaal.

Crawley, level-headed and mature, was quick to stress before the warm-up one-day game against Eastern Transvaal, at Springs, near Johannesburg, today, that his performance on Monday had come off a relatively weak attack. He omitted to mention that Western Transvaal did include Tony Gray, the former Surrey and West Indies paceman. It was Crawley's commanding presence at the wicket that most caught the eye, hitting his first ball as an England batsman through extra cover for four.

Here, without doubt, is a future England batsman of quality — and Crawley seems to accept his destiny. "I want to play for England as soon as possible. I don't think you can be too young.

"I'll be ready whenever I have to be. I think it's better if you play Test cricket when you are young because youngsters don't have any fear — you just go out and play.

"I want to make four or five really big scores on this tour. And if I do manage to get to a century I want to turn it into a 150. I know there are great expectations of me, but all that sort of thing just makes you more determined to live up to the predictions. There is a little bit of added pressure which I think is good for your game."

As a boy Crawley admired Gower, Gatting and Gooch. Nowadays, the batsman he most likes to watch is Mark Waugh, but he says he does not model himself on anyone — "you just go out and do your own thing," he said.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Guildford threaten television black-out

GUILDFORD Kings are threatening to pull the plug on a Spanish television crew preparing to televise the European basketball championship tie against Barcelona in the Spectrum Arena tonight (Nicholas Harling writes). The ultimatum to Dorna, a marketing company that holds the television rights to games in the competition's later stages, has come from Barry Dow, Guildford's joint owner. With his club still owed $50,000 (about £33,500) of Dorna's first instalment of $150,000, Dow has told the Barcelona-based company that he wants some indication when the balance will be paid.

"The money hasn't been forthcoming in spite of the tremendous amount of communication with them," he said yesterday. Should Dow be forced to carry out his threat, Sky Television's live coverage of the game, beginning at 8pm, would be affected. Alton Byrd, the Guildford player, hopes to have recovered fully from a swollen knee.

Chen ranks with best

TABLE TENNIS: Chen Xinhua, the England No 1, rose one place to thirteenth in the world rankings released yesterday, following his victory over Jean-Philippe Gatien, the world champion, in the Swedish Open last month. Chen might have risen higher still had he captured the Swedish title after a thrilling final against Andrzej Grubba, the former World Cup winner from Poland, who snatched victory over the Yorkshire-based player with a 21-18 win in the final game. Although Chen's defensive style causes difficulty for Gatien's fast, left-handed attacking, and therefore not too much should be read into this one result, the former Chinese international's overall performances nevertheless suggest that at the age of 33, he is playing his best since helping his native country to win the world team title in 1987. This augurs well for England's European League semi-final first leg match against Belgium next week.

Promise pays dividends

SNOOKER: Outstanding early-season performances from two of the game's most promising talents were rewarded yesterday when Ronnie O'Sullivan, the winner of the United Kingdom championship ten days ago, and Peter Ebdon received wild card invitations to compete in the £415,000 Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley from February 6 to 13. O'Sullivan, 18, ensured that he will be the youngest participant in the 18-year history of the tournament by winning last month's Benson and Hedges championship in Edinburgh; Ebdon, 21, won the Skoda grand prix title.

Doubles success

REAL TENNIS: Bill Husselby and Charles Wade won the prestigious Camkin Trophy doubles championship after an impressive victory over Julian Snow and Paul Muddyman, the top-ranking Britons, in the semmi-final. Wade played a canny floor-game while Husselby vollied and forced effectively, picking off the gallant Muddyman as he staunchly defended the galleries. In the final, Wade and Husselby proved much too experienced for the promising partnership of Nick Jury and Nick Terry, winning 6-2 in spectacular style.

Wasim returns

CRICKET: Zimbabwe, destroyed by Waqar Younis in their first Test match against Pakistan, will also have Wasim Akram, his new-ball partner, to contend with in the second Test in Rawalpindi tomorrow. The Pakistani captain missed the opening match of the three-Test series after fracturing his wrist in Sharjah last month, but he was barely missed as Waqar claimed match figures of 13 for 135. Andy Flower, the Zimbabwe captain, admitted his side faced a "daunting task" trying to hold off the two pace bowlers, but his side is likely to be unchanged from the first Test.

Award for Langer

GOLF: Bernhard Langer, the US Masters champion this year, was yesterday named as the winner of the Association of Golf Writers' Trophy for 1993, the second time that the German, 36, has taken the award given to the player or players judged to have done the most for European golf during the season. He previously won it in 1981, when he topped the European money list. "I am very excited and very happy about winning this prestigious award again," Langer said. "It's a real honour to gain the votes of some of the most knowledgeable people in golf."

Tour's double money

GOLF: The Women Professional Golfers' European Tour is to double its prize money for 1994, offering £2million at its 17 tournaments. The main events will be the £335,000 Weetabix British Open at Woburn in August and Europe's defence of the Solheim Cup in October.

1994 FIXTURES: April: 21-24, European matchplay, Italy; 28-May 1 Ford Classic, Woburn May: 19-22: Costa Azul Classic, Lisbon. June: 9-12: Evian Masters: Royal Club Evian, France, 16-19: OVB Open, Austria; 23-26 BMW European Masters, Bercuit, Belgium. 30-Jul 3 Hennessy Cup, Cologne July: 7-10 European Classic, Germany. 28-31. Ford Irish Open. August: 4-7. Scottish Open, Dalmahoy; 11-14. Weetabix British Open, Woburn; 18-21. Trygg Hansa Open, Haninge, Sweden September: 1-4 English Open, Tytherington, 9-11 Netherlands Open, Grossbeek; 22-25 BMW Italian Open, Ugnano, 29-Oct 2: La Manga Club Spanish Open October: 13-16 Var Open de France; 21-23. Solheim Cup, The Greenbrier, WVa

Schumacher signs

MOTOR SPORT: Michael Schumacher, the German Formula One driver, yesterday signed a new three-year contract with the Benetton team. Flavio Briatore, the team's managing director, confirmed: "Although Michael had a contract until 1995, we are extremely pleased that we have now secured his talents for at least a year beyond that. We consider Schumacher to be a great asset and a firm guarantee of continuing success. Schumacher, who finished fourth in the world drivers' championship standings last season, said: "There is a fantastic atmosphere at the team."

Anglers angry over licence fee increases



Brian Clarke finds the angling community in muddy waters as NRA seeks to raise more money

The revised rod licence structure announced by the National Rivers Authority (NRA) last month was the latest of several attempts by the NRA to rationalise the system and to generate more money for its fisheries work.

Each attempt has brought the NRA into sometimes heated debate with representatives of the angling community and in some circles — notably among fishery owners and salmon and sea trout anglers — there has been a dilution of the goodwill with which the NRA was universally greeted at its launch in 1989.

It would be a great pity if these early encounters caused attitudes in either camp to harden. While the NRA has unquestionably made mistakes, anglers as a whole are an infuriating bunch. At the same time, the creation of the NRA is the most important development for fisheries in the lifetime of living fishermen. For the first time they have a national body charged with and, I believe, genuinely dedicated to, the maintenance and improvement of the waters on which all angling depends. For this reason alone, the NRA deserves all the support that anglers and fishery owners can reasonably give it.

In many ways, the NRA's fisheries function is a victim of circumstances and its own zeal. It inherited a shambles from the regional water authorities. These authorities, and their predecessors, for a century, had not only failed to maintain and improve fisheries, but had presided over, and contributed to, a catastrophic decline in them.

In seeking to address the problems, the NRA has inevitably deflected attention from its less glamorous but vital work on the ground — not least the research and data-gathering that frustrates most fishermen but that will lead to better fisheries management.

The NRA is singularly unblessed in its customers. In most of the specialist media that should be making anglers aware of events, space devoted to a balanced analysis of issues is as rare as a rise of eels.

The other side of the coin is that the NRA has shown it can be ham-fisted and bureaucratic and, for all its clear commitment to consultation, to be desperately poor at communication.

A year after it had introduced a single licence enabling anyone to fish for all species for £13.25 a year, the NRA said it wanted to move to a licence based on fish classes. Coarse fishermen would have to pay £15, trout fishermen £22.50 and salmon and sea trout fishermen, £75. The scale and split of the proposed increases took everyone by surprise.

During the debate, the NRA left anglers with a feeling that the figures had been structured simply to take account of bureaucratic need and that the trout and salmon figures especially had been plucked from the air.

The fact that the authority has been able to settle for £15 from trout fishermen, has done nothing to dispel this view. The fact that the NRA has said it will make up much of the shortfall by improved enforcement likewise has won it little ground. Before the review, the NRA stubbornly refused to accept the overwhelming view of the people on the bankside that licence avoidance is rife and that improved enforcement could bring in much of the extra money needed.

The pitching of the salmon and sea trout licence at £75 was particularly puzzling. No satisfactory reason for choosing this huge figure was ever given. It was simply stated that the NRA spends much more on salmon and sea trout fisheries than on other fisheries and so game-fishermen should expect to pay more than others. But exactly how much more and on what basis? And given the rationale, how could salmon anglers who nationally averaged less than one fish a year in 1992 possibly accept a five-fold hike, when commercial nets paying a fraction of the overall duty, took an average of 40 fish each in the same year?

A wise man would suggest that when planning future negotiations on funding with the angling community, and when deciding what arguments they need to prepare, the NRA makes four assumptions.

First, that anglers will object to paying for something they have not paid for previously. Second, that they will object to paying for a "benefit" they cannot perceive or quantify. Third, that they will not pay an apparently unreasonable amount for any benefit. Fourth, that they will not pay any amount they cannot afford, no matter how great a benefit.

There is a fifth assumption that the NRA is no doubt making: that in any negotiations, the angling community will be unable to speak with one voice because the institutions which speak for the sport are obsessed with rivalries and the defending of territories.

It has long been so, but it should not be. The bodies representing anglers and owners owe it to the sport as a whole to find a single voice on important matters. If they can do so, they will find themselves better placed to get value from everyone with whom they deal — and that includes the NRA.

Cowboys recover confidence

DALLAS Cowboys rebounded from consecutive defeats with a 23-17 victory over the Philadelphia Eagles on Monday night to remain one game away from first place in American football's NFC East division. Emmitt Smith rushed for 172 yards, including 57 on a fourth-quarter run that set up the decisive touchdown.

Dallas, the Super Bowl champions, improved their record to eight wins and four defeats, one game behind the New York Giants, who they meet in the final week of the season. Philadelphia, who ended a six-game losing streak last week, have five wins and seven defeats.

The Cowboys scored on their first possession, from Troy Aikman's 11-yard touchdown pass to Michael Irvin, and stretched the lead to 16-0 with three Eddie Murray field goals in the second quarter. Although the Eagles fought back, Dallas effectively settled the outcome by moving 23-10 ahead, with 9min 16sec remaining, through a two-yard touchdown from Daryl Johnson after Smith's surging run.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

CONTRECTATION
(b) Handling, touching, fingering, caressing furtively or against someone's will, hence in Roman Law, contrectation with another man's property without his consent was theft, from the Latin *con-* intensive + *tractāre* to touch: "A possessed woman, in whose body they can canvas a devil by contrectation, and certain enchanting nips, making him ferret up and downe."

CAMBIST
(a) One who is skilled in the science or practice of exchanges, one who deals in bills of exchange, from the French *cambiste*, Latin *cambium*, Italian *cambio* exchange: "These speculators in exchange, or cambists, as they are technically called."

SOTERIAL
(c) Pertaining to salvation, theological jargon, from the Greek *sōteria*. H. Crosby *Christian Preacher*, 1879: "The soterial pith of the Gospel is simple and soon exhibited."

SPIGURNEL
(b) The sealer of the king's writs, from the Anglo-Latin *spigurnellus*, of obscure origin. Godefridus Spigurnell was in the service of King John in 1207, and the office of *espicurnantia* is mentioned in a document, dated 1299, cited by Kennett: Holland. *Camden's Britannia*: "These Bobuns (to note so much by the way for the antiquity of a word now growne out of use) were by inheritance for a good while the Kings Spigurnels, that is the sealers of his writs."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1 Nf6+! and if 1 ... gxf6 2 Qh8 mate. If 1 ... Kf8, Black loses his queen (2 Nxd7+) but the most accurate reply is actually 2 Bg5, which forces mate in a further two moves.

Marketing drive targets new blood

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

AFTER three painful years putting its house in order, racing faces the fresh challenge of selling itself to the public and attracting new spectators and owners.

The importance of dynamically marketing racing to compete with other leisure activities was the theme of keynote speeches at the annual Gimcrack dinner held at York racecourse last night.

With racing now administered in a more professional manner since the British Horseracing Board (BHB) assumed responsibility for many of the functions carried out by the Jockey Club for two centuries, the need to sell racing to a wider audience was underlined by Robert Sangster, the leading British owner who made the Gimcrack speech, and echoed by Charles Wilson, a former editor of *The Times*, and Lord Hartington, senior steward of the Jockey Club and the BHB chairman.

Sangster highlighted how much had changed in racing organisation since he last made the Gimcrack speech in 1986 and he saluted Lord Hartington for his role in the establishment of the BHB. "But I believe this is only a beginning," he said. "Much needs to be done if racing is to maintain, let alone increase, its share of the leisure market. And here I am struck by how little has changed since I stood here in 1986."

Seven years after suggesting a British Breeders' Cup day, which would attract Cup Final-style attention, and a strengthening of off-course Tote pool betting, little had been achieved, although the need was more acute, he said.

The only Sunday when racing led the sports pages was after the Grand National. It was essential racing had at least one other Sunday when it led the field, and it could be achieved without great difficulty on the Saturday of the Oaks at Epsom.

"What you have to do is to move the the Oaks and the Derby onto the same card," Sangster said. "Take the mile and a quarter handicap from Derby day and make it worth £100,000 to the winner, then move the Temple Stakes from Sandown, which will bring in Europe's top sprinters.

"This Saturday will then instantly become the biggest racing day of the year, the most exciting televised racing afternoon of the season, the heaviest gambling number of all, and, in one move, Epsom is back on top where it belongs. Don't say this can't happen because it can," Sangster said.

Wilson, managing director and editor-in-chief of *The Sporting Life*, said now the BHB was in existence the time was right for racing to market itself with more aggression. "Newcomers to the sport too often find it a scary encounter. We need to make racing more customer friendly, more owner friendly, more racegoer friendly."

Expensive bureaucracy facing new racehorse owners had to be tackled and racecourses should welcome partnerships owning horses rather than restricting the number of owners badges. "We need to capture the public's imagination. We need to identify the market, the under 30s, the family audience, target them, and sell racing as vigorously as it is done abroad in America, Australia and Japan."

Lord Hartington highlighted the success of appearance money at Exeter, free food at Cheltenham and free entry at Kelso as "just three examples this year by entrepreneurial managements to increase racing's appeal to customers. "Attitudes are beginning to change. Competition and professionalism are no longer dirty words."

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Bollin Magdalene
(3.20 Haydock)
Next best: Avro Anson
(2.20 Haydock)

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Turtle Island, left, gives Robert Sangster victory in the Gimcrack Stakes at York and the honour of addressing last night's celebratory dinner

Muse given top weight in Ladbroke

By Julian Muscat

A RECORD British entry of 23 has been received for The Ladbroke, a handicap hurdle at Leopardstown on January 8. The David Elsworth-trained pair, Muse and Oh So Risky, have been allocated 12 stone and 11st 11lb respectively.

However, Irish-trained horses dominate the sponsors' market for the two-mile test. Ladbrokes have installed Gaelic Myth, trained by Tommy Stack, as the 14-1 favourite with Kilcash, a narrow second to Glencloud last year, sharing 16-1 second favouritism with five home-trained horses.

Kilcash returned to the fray with an encouraging sixth behind Land Afar at Sandown on Saturday, and will renew rivalry with Glencloud on identical terms. But the Peter Hedger-trained horse is 7lb better off with Land Afar, a 20-1 chance for The Ladbroke.

In addition to Glencloud, the previous winners How's the Boss and The Illiad are among the 61 entries. Others include the Triumph Hurdle winner Shawiya, and the Dermot Weld-trained Aiybak and Fortune And Fame, all quoted at 16-1. The latter has already attracted support for the Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham in March.

The strong entry delighted Ladbrokes representative Mike Dillon, who said yesterday: "The fact that we are going 14-1 the field tells its own story about the competitive nature of the race."

The Ladbroke has been Gaelic Myth's long-term objective for many months. A six-year-old just out of the novice stage, Gaelic Myth failed by only a head to overhaul Roll A Dollar in the Seagram Top Novices' Hurdle at Aintree in April, when Land Afar finished three-quarters of a length away third. Stack is hoping to complete the horse's preparation with an outing in Ireland over the Christmas period.

BIG RACE ENTRIES

THE LADBROKE (Handicap hurdle: £60,000: 2m) (61 entries)

Muse	12-0	Duharra	10-4	Kiveton Tycoon	9-7
Oh So Risky	11-11	Glencloud	10-4	Lemhill	9-4
Royal Derbi	11-6	Gaelic Myth	10-3	Persian Halo	9-4
Destriero	11-6	Sharp Invite	10-3	Pharfetched	9-3
Fortune And Fame	11-1	Time For A Run	10-3	Cockney Lad	9-1
Boro Eight	10-13	Cock Cockburn	10-2	Eden's Close	9-1
Land Afar	10-13	Final Favour	10-0	Fogelberg	9-1
Kilcash	10-12	Major Bugler	10-0	Morcell	9-1
Rodeo Star	10-12	Visions Pride	10-0	Nijmegen	9-1
Majed	10-11	Kadi	9-12	Love And Porter	9-0
Winter Squall	10-10	Arcot	9-11	Monkey Ago	9-0
Novello Allegro	10-9	Judicial Field	9-10	Young Gale	9-0
Condor Pan	10-8	Life Saver	9-10	Head Of Chambers	8-13
Shawiya	10-7	Storm Front	9-10	Sunset And Vine	8-13
How's The Boss	10-6	Welshman	9-10	Mr Boal	8-12
Leotard	10-6	Nahar	9-9	Thatch And Gold	8-12
The Illiad	10-6	Simenon	9-9	Keppols Prince	8-11
Camden Buzz	10-5	Derrymoyle	9-8	Family Way	8-10
Satin Lover	10-5	Arctic Weather	9-7	Darcari Rose	7-11
Aiybak	10-4	Elementary	9-7	To be run at Leopardstown on January 8	
Atone	10-4	Jimmy The Gillie	9-7		

BETTING: 14-1 Gaelic Myth, 16-1 Aiybak, Arctic Weather, Fortune And Fame, Kilcash, Life Saver, Shawiya, 20-1 Boro Eight, Cockney Lad, Derrymoyle, Family Way, Judicial Field, Land Afar, Leotard, Majed, Sharp Invite, Time For A Run, 25-1 others.

HAYDOCK PARK

THUNDERER
12.20 Moat Garden. 12.50 Wee Wizard. 1.20 One Man. 1.50 Whispering Steel. 2.20 AVRO ANSON (nap). 2.50 Viking Flagship. 3.20 Linkside.

GOING: SOFT SIS

12.20 ASHTON NOVICES HURDLE (£2,128: 2m) (14 runners)

101 10 JOMOVE 46 (BF,S) (Raby Racing) Mrs M Reveley 4-11-6 P Niven 84
102 31 MOAT GARDEN 18 (S) (Queen Elizabeth) I Balding 5-11-6 J Frost 90
103 5 ALJADEER 22 (G Shouler) M W Easterby 4-11-0 M Dwyer 84
104 3 COOL LUKE 26 (B Batey) G Moore 4-11-0 N Bentley (3) 87
105 20 CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE 22 (Cumbrian Industrials Ltd) M H Easterby 4-11-0 L Wyer 84
106 4/0 LAZY RHYTHM 53 (Mrs C Hirst) J Eyre 7-11-0 S Turner –
107 043- MEDIA MESSENGER 36F (Lord Lambton) Denys Smith 4-11-0 P Waggott (5) 77
108 SIE AMATO 30F (Red Rose Partnership) J H Wilson 4-11-0 G Bradley –
109 P0 TOLLS CHOICE 22 (T Hughes) M W Easterby 4-11-0 J Driscoll (7) –
110 4 VANART 22 (W Haigh) W Haigh 4-11-0 D Byrne 85
111 52403-6 VASILIEV 18 (V) (R Houlton) M Hammond 5-11-0 C Grant 99
112 480/P5 ANGEL FALLING 6 (T Marlow) E Owen Jr 5-10-9 A Thornton (3) 79
113 CLAUDIA MISS 16F (G Whorton) W Haigh 6-10-9 S D Williams –
114 00-3 THISTLE PRINCESS 50 (J Gordon) G Richards 4-10-9 N Doughty 79

BETTING: 11-4 Moat Garden, 4-1 Cool Luke, 6-1 Vanart, 7-1 Aljadeer, 10-1 Cumbrian Challenge, 12-1 others.

1992: MAJED 4-11-6 P Niven (6-4 fav) Mrs M Reveley 20 ran

FORM FOCUS

JOMOVE beat Iron Baron 1½l in a 14-runner novice hurdle at Sedgefield on penultimate start (2m 1f 110yd, soft).
MOAT GARDEN beat Leeas 1l in a 16-runner novice hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, soft), with VASILIEV (6lb better off) 16l 6th. COOL LUKE 8½l 3rd of 11 to Surrey Dancer in a maiden hurdle at Ayr (2m, good). MEDIA MESSENGER 10½l 3rd of 11 to Alum Bay in a maiden hurdle at Edinburgh (2m, good). VANART 29½l 4th of 17 to Marcell in a novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good to soft), with ALJADEER ¾l 5th, CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE 16l 8th and TOLLS CHOICE tailed off last. THISTLE PRINCESS 3¼l 3rd of 13 to Tarda in a novice hurdle at Ayr (2m, good).
Selection: MOAT GARDEN

12.50 BEECHES FARM CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,023: 2m) (11 runners)

201 1321- STYLUS 209 (D,S) (Capt J Macdonald-Buchanan) D Nicholson 4-12-0 R Massey (5) 88
202 0F3115 BROOK COTTAGE 22 (D,G) (F Barton) F Barton 5-11-10 M Hourigan 90
203 331153- PERSONAL HAZARD 196F (D,S) (T Bennett) M H Easterby 4-11-2 J Driscoll (5) 89
204 31/2 RICHARDSON 8 (D,F) (R Haggas) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-10-12 G Tormey (5) 93
205 440141 KALKO 25 (D,G,S) (Mrs S Walker) A Harrison 4-10-12 J Supple (3) 94
206 12-1161 WEE WIZARD 25 (D,F,G,S) (Armstrong/Greenwell) M Barnes 4-10-10 A Dobbin 90
207 /P/3121- IT'S THE PITS 193 (G,S) (Currie Group) L Lungo 6-10-9 F Perratt (3) 88
208 135-4U4 IN TRUTH 25 (G) (Mrs E Houlton) M Hammond 5-10-8 D Bentley 99
209 002-43F RINGLAND 53 (D,G) (R Moffat) T Cuthbert 5-10-6 Carol Cuthbert (5) 96
210 43-1642 DANCING DOVE 26 (D,G) (Dr K Fraser) G Richards 5-10-6 B Harding (5) 87
211 00103/ TIMUR'S KING 634 (D,S) (Lord Leverhulme) S Mellor 6-10-0 D Fortt (3) –

BETTING: 2-1 Richardson, 4-1 Wee Wizard, 6-1 It's The Pits, Personal Hazard, Stylus, 10-1 In Truth, 12-1 others.

1992: BALLYLORD 8-10-13 A Dobbin (4-1) J J O'Neill 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

STYLUS beat Kenilworth Lad 2½l in an 11-runner novice hurdle at Perth (2m 110yd, good to soft). BROOK COTTAGE beat Jimmy The Jackdaw a short head in a 9-runner handicap hurdle at Clonmel on penultimate start (2m, good). RICHARDSON ½l 2nd of 10 to Macedonas in a handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good). KALKO beat Port In A Storm 3l in an 11-runner selling hurdle at Nottingham (2m, good to soft). WEE WIZARD beat Home Counties ½l in a 7-runner handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m, good). IT'S THE PITS beat Master Boston 3½l in a 12-runner novice hurdle at Hexham (2m 4f 110yd, good). DANCING DOVE head 2nd of 11 to Shaffic in a novice handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m 4f, good).
Selection: RICHARDSON

1.20 TONY DICKINSON MEMORIAL NOVICES CHASE (£3,355: 3m) (4 runners)

301 113P-11 LO STREGONE 22 (C,D,G,S) (Mrs S Clegg) T Tate 7-11-2 M Dwyer 86
302 1132-11 ONE MAN 21 (C,F,G,S) (J Hales) G Richards 5-11-2 N Doughty 99
303 24/234B CROWN EYEGLASS 8 (Crown Eyeglass Plc) R Woodhouse 7-10-12 R Garritty 87
304 0/0-645P KING'S RARITY 6 (G) (T Corden) A J Wilson 7-10-12 T Reed –

BETTING: 8-15 One Man, 7-4 Lo Stregone, 33-1 Crown Eyeglass, King's Rarity.

1992: WHISPERING STEEL 6-11-2 N Doughty (8-13 fav) G Richards 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

LO STREGONE beat Monaughty Man 6l in a 5-runner novice chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, good to soft). ONE MAN beat Monsieur Le Cure 10l in a 4-runner novice chase here (2m 4f, good to soft). CROWN EYEGLASS 5½l 3rd of 9 to Sandaig in a novice handicap chase at Bangor in October (3m 110yd, good). KING'S RARITY tailed-off 5th of 6 to Valiant Warrior in a novice handicap chase here on last completed start (2m 4f, good).
Selection: ONE MAN

1.50 TOMMY WHITTLE CHASE (£9,968: 3m) (4 runners)

401 P11F-04 PLENTY CRACK 27 (D,G,S) (B Mactaggart) B Mactaggart 10-11-2 B Storey 84
402 1111-15 WHISPERING STEEL 11 (CD,G,S) (J Gillow) G Richards 7-11-0 N Doughty 99
403 3F/15UD- GAMBLING ROYAL 312 (D,G,S) (Roach Foods Ltd) D Nicholson 10-10-12 A Maguire 91
404 211P3-4 VERY VERY ORDINARY 15 (D,G,S) (Mrs W Cohen) J Upson 7-10-12 R Supple 97

BETTING: 6-4 Whispering Steel, 2-1 Gambling Royal, Very Very Ordinary, 20-1 Plenty Crack.

1992: TWIN OAKS 12-11-2 R Dunwoody (5-4 fav) G Richards 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

PLENTY CRACK 17l 4th of 5 to Wheat Fettle in a handicap chase at Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, good). WHISPERING STEEL 21½l 5th of 9 to Cogent in the grade III Hennessy Cognac Handicap Chase at Newbury (3m 2f 110yd, good). GAMBLING ROYAL 14l 5th of 13 to Sibton Abbey in the grade III Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup Handicap Chase at Newbury last year (3m 2f 110yd, soft). VERY VERY ORDINARY's best recent effort came when beating Calapaez 2½l in a 7-runner handicap chase at Ascot in February (3m 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: WHISPERING STEEL

2.20 WATERLOO HURDLE (Grade II: £9,330: 2m 4f) (7 runners)

501 10540-6 JINXY JACK 32 (C,F,G,S) (Mrs B McGreevy) G Richards 9-11-4 M Dwyer 99
502 12221-3 HIGH ALLTITUDE 39 (CD,G,S) (B Batey) G Moore 5-11-2 C Grant 86
503 11324-2 AVRO ANSON 32 (BF,F,G) (B Slaton) M Camacho 5-11-0 D Byrne 98
504 2030-22 BOLLIN WILLIAM 20 (CD,S) (Sir Neil Westbrook) M H Easterby 5-11-0 L Wyer 93
505 12112/ PRECIOUS BOY 37F (G,S) (M Johnson) M Meagher 7-11-0 N Doughty –
506 011-314 DEB'S BALL 11 (D,F,G,S) (J Calvert) D Moffatt 7-10-13 D J Moffatt 98
507 F2566-2 WINNIE THE WITCH 11 (C,D,F,G,S) (Paddocks Racing) K Bridgwater 9-10-9 D Bridgwater 82

BETTING: 5-2 Avro Anson, 4-1 Deb's Ball, Jinxy Jack, 7-1 Bollin William, 10-1 High Alltitude, 12-1 others.

1992: MIGHTY MOGUL 5-11-2 R Dunwoody (30-100 fav) D Nicholson 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

JINXY JACK 4l 4th of 6 to Staunch Friend in the grade II Scottish Champion Hurdle at Ayr in April (2m, good). HIGH ALLTITUDE beat Castle Courageous 3l in the grade II Persian War Novices' Hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). AVRO ANSON 3l 2nd of 19 to Triple Witching in a handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, good). BOLLIN WILLIAM ½l 2nd of 11 to Bonanza in a handicap hurdle here (2m 6f, good to soft). DEB'S BALL 15½l 4th of 7 to Triple Witching in the grade II Long Distance Hurdle at Newbury (3m 110yd, good). WINNIE THE WITCH 3½l 2nd of 5 to Arabian Bold in a hurdle at Warwick (2m, good).
Selection: AVRO ANSON (nap)

2.50 LEIGH HANDICAP CHASE (£5,034: 2m) (2 runners)

601 111111- VIKING FLAGSHIP 223 (D,F,G,S) (Roach Foods Limited) D Nicholson 6-11-10 A Maguire 91
602 123-422 LAST 'O' THE BUNCH 21 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (G Middlebrook) G Richards 9-11-3 N Doughty 99

BETTING: 4-5 Viking Flagship, Evens Last 'O' The Bunch.

1992: LAST 'O' THE BUNCH 8-11-12 N Doughty (4-9 fav) G Richards 3 ran

FORM FOCUS

VIKING FLAGSHIP completed a six-timer when beating Antonin 4l in the 8-runner grade II Colliers Novices' Chase at Punchestown (2m, good to yielding).
Two days earlier he beat Foulksrath Castle 2½l in an 8-runner handicap chase over the same course, distance and going. LAST 'O' THE BUNCH 5l 2nd of 3 to Good For A Laugh in a handicap chase over course and distance (good to soft). Previously, head 2nd of 5 to same rival in a handicap chase over course and distance (good).
Selection: LAST 'O' THE BUNCH

3.20 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,840: 2m 7f 110yd) (15 runners)

1 0/15450- THE DEMON BARBER 284 (C,D,F,G,S) (Stolamatics Ltd) G Richards 11-12-0 N Doughty 98
2 300-P00 PEANUTS PET 20 (C,F,G,S) (The Ivy Syndicate) T Tate 8-11-13 R Garritty 99
3 P/P01PP- MONTAGNARD 209 (G,S) (N Gill) M Bradstock 9-11-5 G Bradley 93
4 23/211-6 HELIOPSIS 32 (CD,G,S) (G Godsman & D Godsman) M Hammond 5-11-0 C Grant 92
5 12264-0 DRIEL DREAM 8 (G,S) (S Marsh) R Fisher 6-11-0 P Niven 91
6 421212- WISHING GATE 214 (D,F,G) (D Buckle) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-10-9 M Dwyer 89
7 1/21F2/ NORTHANTS 510F (BF,G,S) (C Rennison) W Storey 7-10-8 K Johnson –
8 1-3 BOLLIN MAGDALENE 8 (G) (Sir Neil Westbrook) M H Easterby 5-10-7 L Wyer 94
9 2B31-01 LINKSIDE 26 (G) (M Johnson) M Meagher 8-10-6 A Maguire 97
10 2F/5-550 ARCTIC OATS 74 (D,F,G) (R Dineen) W Haigh 8-10-2 D Byrne 98
11 01113-1 TRUMP 25 (G) (R Green) C Parker 4-10-2 B Storey 94
12 2413-52 ONLY A ROSE 25 (C,BF,G,S) (G Read) C Thornton 4-10-0 D Wilkinson 94
13 023-441 MYTHICAL STORM 21 (C,G,S) (C Buckley) Mrs M Reveley 6-10-0 Mr M Buckley (5) 94
14 44203-0 CAPTAIN MY CAPTAIN 35 (G) (Mrs A Buron) W Clay 5-10-0 D Bridgwater 87
15 522131/ NODDLE 646 (G) (J Galbraith) L Lungo 5-10-0 F Perratt (7) –

Long handicap: Mythical Storm 9-11, Captain My Captain 9-8, Noddle 9-2.

BETTING: 5-1 Bollin Magdalene, Only A Rose, Trump, 6-1 Mythical Storm, 8-1 Linkside, 10-1 others.

1992: HELIOPSIS 4-10-7 P Niven (4-6 fav) M Hammond 3 ran

FORM FOCUS

HELIOPSIS 8l 6th of 9 to Cousinos in a handicap hurdle at Newcastle (3m, good). WISHING GATE 7l 2nd of 4 to Attadale in a novice handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good to firm). BOLLIN MAGDALENE 3½l 3rd of 11 to Notable Exception in a handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 110yd, good to soft). LINKSIDE beat Tronchetto 3½l in a 6-runner handicap hurdle at Ayr (3m 110yd, good). TRUMP beat ONLY A ROSE (4lb better off) 4l in a 6-runner handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m 4f, good). MYTHICAL STORM beat Albertito 3l in a 5-runner handicap hurdle here (2m 4f, good to soft).
Selection: ONLY A ROSE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
G Richards	36	112	32.1	N Bentley	4	8	50.0
D Nicholson	6	19	31.6	N Doughty	61	171	35.7
T Tate	6	21	28.6	Mr M Buckley	3	9	33.3
Mrs M Reveley	6	22	27.3	G Bradley	23	95	24.2
Jimmy Fitzgerald	12	53	22.6	D Byrne	5	23	21.7
M H Easterby	7	35	20	K Johnson	4	20	20.0

WORCESTER

THUNDERER
12.30 Busman. 1.00 Andrew's First. 1.30 Madam Picasso. 2.00 L'Uomo Piu. 2.30 Arctic Course. 3.00 Camelot Knight. 3.30 King Scorpio.
Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.00 PEACEMAN.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY ON RUN-IN) SIS

12.30 CHAMPAGNE SELLING HURDLE (4-Y-O: £2,150: 2m 2f) (5 runners)

1 -F31 BUSMAN 4 (S) J O'Shea 11-7 M A Fitzgerald 95
2 0-PP PLUM LINE 8 (V) Mrs L Jewell 11-0 A Bates (5) –
3 PP- CUPID'S COURAGE 240 Mrs L Jewell 10-9 D Meredith (3) –
4 0-65 HINTON LADY 8 (B) C Egerton 10-9 J Osborne –
5 600 ROCKY BAY 19 B Llewellyn 10-9 Mr J L Llewellyn (7) 99

4-5 Busman, 3-1 Hinton Lady, 9-2 Rocky Bay, 10-1 others.

1.00 MISTLETOE NOVICES CHASE (£3,059: 2m 4f 110yd) (18)

1 0-12 PEACEMAN 22 (G,S) Mrs D Haine 7-11-3 D Murphy 99
2 14-0 ANDREW'S FIRST 32 (F,G,S) M Wilkinson 6-10-12 S Earle –
3 P-03 BARELY BLACK 35 N Babbage 5-10-12 W Humphreys –
4 053- BUCKELIGHT 228 T Forster 5-10-12 B Powell –
5 212/P COCK SPARROW 18 (S) J Mackie 9-10-12 W Marston –
6 CROPREDY LAD J Webber 6-10-12 R Bellamy –
7 0-03 FEARSOME 13 (S) K Burke 7-10-12 M A Fitzgerald 60
8 PP04/ ISIPINGO 982 Mrs L Jewell 6-10-12 R Davis (3) –
9 142- LEESWOOD 222 (F,S) R Lee 5-10-12 L Harvey –
10 221/4 MR OPTIMISTIC 6 (G,S) J J O'Neill 6-10-12 R Dunwoody –
11 52P- PAKENHAM 265 G Richards 7-10-12 M Moloney –
12 006 PARSON'S WAY 13 A Jones 6-10-12 G Upton –
13 F2F- PUNCH'S HOTEL 263 R Rowe 8-10-12 T Grantham 88
14 0-30 RIDDLEMEROO 22 A Forbes 8-10-12 T Eley (5) –
15 -405 TEKLA 64 (S) A Chamberlain 8-10-12 A Tory 72
16 P-0F THE YOKEL 21 J Mackie 7-10-12 T Wall –
17 P-1P TWIST 'N' SCU 34 (F) N Twiston-Davies 5-10-12 C Llewellyn –
18 0-U4 SEMINOLE PRINCESS 26 C Jones 5-10-7 M Bosley –

5-2 Peaceman, 7-2 Andrew's First, 8-1 Pakenham, 10-1 Mr Optimistic, 12-1 Fearsome, 14-1 Buckelight, 16-1 Punch's Hotel, Twist 'N' Scu, 20-1 others.

1.30 TURKEY NOVICES HURDLE (£2,150: 2m) (15)

1 542- CASTLE COURT 218 N Gaselee 5-10-12 D Murphy –
2 S-P DISTANT MILL 9 R Dickin 5-10-12 D Meredith (3) –
3 P DUTY SERGEANT 47 M Muggeridge 4-10-12 M Ahern –
4 EAGLES LAIR 944F (B) D Marks 7-10-12 J McCarthy (5) –
5 00 FIRST CENTURY 32 B Llewellyn 4-10-12 Mr J L Llewellyn (7) –
6 GLASGOW 371F (B) G Jones 4-10-12 H Davies –
7 P IN DEEP FRIENDSHIP 53 S Sherwood 5-10-12 J Osborne –
8 0/ IT'S CONFIDENTIAL 753 D Barons 6-10-12 R Davis (3) 99
9 3-30 KLINGON 21 J Bradley 4-10-12 R Farrant (3) 83
10 00 RAFTERS 11 J Bradley 4-10-12 M A FitzGerald 92
11 65- SARAZAR 151F R Akehurst 4-10-12 R Dunwoody 80
12 2360 TOPPING TOM 7 N Twiston-Davies 4-10-12 C Llewellyn 77
13 0 HEPBURN 9 R Brazington 5-10-7 W Humphreys –
14 53-4 MADAM PICASSO 6 N Mitchell 4-10-7 Miss S Mitchell (7) 90
15 00-0 NICSAMLYN 12 C Smith 6-10-7 Mr T Stephenson 87

7-2 Topping Tom, 9-2 Sarazar, 6-1 Castle Court, 8-1 Madam Picasso, Klingon, 10-1 Nicsamlyn, 12-1 First Century, Hepburn, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 40 winners from 126 runners, 31.7%; Miss H Knight, 12 from 39, 30.8%; A P Jones, 3 from 17, 17.6%; J Webber, 10 from 61, 16.4%; A Turnell, 5 from 31, 16.1%; D Nicholson, 16 from 100, 16.0%.

JOCKEYS: J Osborne, 26 winners from 102 rides, 25.5%; S Curran, 3 from 13, 23.1%; H Davies, 20 from 129, 15.5%; R Dunwoody, 31 from 208, 14.9% (Only qualifiers)

2.00 BILLY LOVE MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,202: 2m) (6)

1 24-3 NORTHERN JINKS 9 (CD,G,S) R Dickin 10-12-0 D Meredith (3) 99
2 -F11 PERSIAN SWORD 13 (D,S) D Nicholson 7-10-6 W Marston 85
3 4-34 MR FELIX 37 (D,BF,F,G,S) R Champion 7-10-4 D Murphy 88
4 2332 L'UOMO PIU 22 (CD,F,G) A Barrow 9-10-0 M A Fitzgerald 93
5 P311 COTAPAXI 9 (CD,F,G) R Hodges 8-10-0 (6ex) R Dunwoody 93
6 1/0 PHILLIMAY 21 (D,G) R Lee 7-10-0 L Harvey –

4-5 Persian Sword, 7-2 Northern Jinks, 9-2 Cotapaxi, 8-1 L'Uomo Piu, 12-1 others.

2.30 CRANBERRY NOVICES HURDLE (£1,480: 2m 5f 110yd) (14)

1 -F42 ARCTIC COURSE 32 D Nicholson 5-10-12 W Marston 99
2 PP/0P ARDORAN 25 Miss S Wilton 7-10-12 T Eley (5) –
3 -P6P ASSEMBLY DANCER 68 D Williams 6-10-12 R Davis (3) –
4 0 BETTIVILLE 32 C Broad 6-10-12 A Carroll –
5 6/3- CALLEROSE 335 T Forster 6-10-12 B Powell 90
6 3-PP GIVEITAGO 7 (B,G) A Turnell 7-10-12 S McNeill 97
7 0P/ KING TASMAN 848 Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-10-12 H Davies –
8 0-40 NAVAL BATTLE 23 (S) J King 6-10-12 M A Fitzgerald 66
9 30/P0 PHAROAH'S SON 49 Miss C Johnsey 7-10-12 S Earle –
10 00- SMITH'S BAND 245 Mrs J Pitman 5-10-12 R Dunwoody –
11 0-04 TALENT SPOTTER 46 K Bridgwater 6-10-12 A Shakespeare (7) 77
12 6-P4 THE CARROT MAN 19 C Egerton 5-10-12 J Osborne 70
13 THE SHAW TRADER N Twiston-Davies 4-10-12 C Llewellyn –
14 ON THE BOOK Mrs S Williams 4-10-7 A Tory –

4-5 Arctic Course, 8-1 Callerose, 10-1 Talent Spotter, The Carrot Man, 12-1 Smith's Band, The Shaw Trader, 14-1 Bettiville

3.00 SAINT NICHOLAS HANDICAP CHASE (£3,327: 2m 7f) (10)

1 F1-1 MIDNIGHT CALLER 22 (S) S Sherwood 7-12-0 J Osborne 90
2 114- SIDE OF HILL 250 (CD,F,S) M Pipe 8-11-11 R Dunwoody 92
3 1-04 MUTUAL TRUST 12 (F,G,S) G Richards 9-11-11 M Moloney 87
4 -322 CAMELOT KNIGHT 8 (B,S) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-9 C Llewellyn 95
5 3534 SIRRAH JAY 18 (C,F,G,S) K Burke 13-11-6 Doubtful 96
6 F14- MATT REID 224 (C,S) J Leigh 9-11-2 Mr W Morgan 97
7 PF-P HEYFLEET 23 (B,F,S) Mrs J Pitman 10-10-6 I Lawrence 95
8 024- THAMESDOWN TOOTSIE 221 (G,S) A Jones 8-10-0 G Upton 90
9 P4P- FATHER JOHN 237 (F) M Muggeridge 9-10-0 W Irvine 80
10 305- GADBROOK 235 (V,F,G,S) R Lee 11-10-0 L Harvey 99

9-4 Midnight Caller, 3-1 Camelot Knight, 9-2 Side Of Hill, 6-1 Matt Reid, 8-1 Mutual Trust, 12-1 Gadbrook, 16-1 others

3.30 GRUNWICK STAKES NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,870: 2m) (22)

1 CASTLE WARRIOR M Lloyd 6-11-7 N Jockes (7) –
2 FINWAG J Smith 6-11-7 T Eley (5) –
3 MOORE BONES D Gandolfo 5-11-7 A Dowling (7) –
4 MY LITTLE SECRET J O'Shea 5-11-7 Mr N Bradley (7) –
5 RED PARADE D Barons 5-11-7 R Davis (3) –
6 SHIMBA HILLS Mrs J Retter 5-11-7 Mrs J Retter –
7 THE BARGEMAN Mrs J Renfree-Barons 5-11-7 A Thornton (3) –
8 WHITELOCK QUEST J Spearing 5-11-7 Miss C Spearing (7) –
9 BECKFORD N Gaselee 4-11-5 Mr P MacEwan –
10 CAPO CASTANUM Miss H Knight 4-11-5 Mr J M Pritchard –
11 CHAPRASSI M Pipe 4-11-5 T Dascombe (7) –
12 COMIC TURN T Forster 4-11-5 R Farrant (3) –
13 COUNTRYWIDE LAD C Weedon 4-11-5 C Burnett-Wells (5) –
14 KING SCORPIO C Egerton 4-11-5 A Procter (5) –
15 ST MELLION FAIRWAY J Old 4-11-5 Pat Thompson (7) –
16 ST MELLION GREEN J Old 4-11-5 R Greene –
17 DUQUES R Rowe 6-11-2 L Dace (7) –
18 EL KHAMSIN P McEntee 5-11-2 Paul McEntee (7) –
19 MAGGIE TEE N Mitchell 5-11-2 S Curran (5) –
20 ROSENTHAL W G M Turner 5-11-2 T Murphy (7) –
21 NETHERHILL D Elsworth 4-11-0 J McCarthy (5) –
22 SUZY BLUE T George 4-11-0 T Jenks (5) –

3-1 Comic Turn, 4-1 Chaprassi, 8-1 Suzy Blue, 10-1 Red Parade, 12-1 Capo Castanum, 14-1 Moore Bones, Shimba Hills, 16-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield Park: 2.10 The Institute Boy 2.40 Five Islands.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER
12.40 Leviathan Mystery. 1.10 Gold Blade. 1.40 Strat's Legacy. 2.10 Window Display. 2.40 Not So Generous. 3.10 Quinzii Martin.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: LOW BEST SIS

12.40 SHERATON MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,445: 7f) (8 runners)

1 6000 COLONEL SINCLAIR 32 R Hollinshead 9-0 S Perks 7
2 063 DOCTOR JAMES 11 J Pitch-Heyes 9-0 J Fanning 4
3 DONT CON TH'BOOKIE W Musson 9-0 J Quinn 1
4 0026 LEVIATHAN MYSTERY 48 Ld Huntingdon 9-0 J Wilkinson (7) 3
5 006 MISTER MAYBE 51 R Hannon 9-0 Mark Denaro (7) 2
6 MYTTON'S CHOICE A Bailey 9-0 A Mackay 5
7 4422 ROYAL CREST 9 P Cole 9-0 C Rutter 8
8 PINK BRIEF (E) D Elsworth 8-9 J Williams 6

11-8 Leviathan Mystery, 2-1 Royal Crest, 6-1 Mister Maybe, 8-1 others.

1.10 ART DECO LIMITED STAKES (£2,669: 1m 2f) (14)

1 4003 APPLIANCEOFSCIENCE 11 (D,G) K Wingrove 6-9-0 P McCabe (5) 2
2 0500 AVENUE FOCH 33 (F) J Pearce 4-9-0 J Quinn 5
3 2302 AWESOME POWER 11 (CD,BF,G) J Hills 7-9-0 A Clark 12
4 0200 DODGY 6 (E,C,F,G) S Dow 6-9-0 C Rutter 11
5 4536 GOLD BLADE 16 (CD,F,G) N Graham 4-9-0 D Biggs 9
6 320- LIFT BOY 370 (F) A Moore 4-9-0 B Rouse 1
7 2512 LOOKINGFORARAINBOW 32 (CD,F,G) Bob Jones 5-9-0 M Wigham 13
8 0205 MAHONG 41 (C,D,F,G) Mrs H Parrott 5-9-0 V Slattery 7
9 6000 SIMON ELLIS 81J D Laing 4-9-0 A Mackay 4
10 1004 CITY ROCKET 34 (V,F) P Makin 3-8-10 T Sprake 14
11 300U STEVIE'S WONDER 9 (C,G) T Mills 3-8-10 K Gwilliams (5) 8
12 0006 FAIR ENCHANTRESS 11 (B,F) J Bennett 5-8-9 G Bardwell 3
13 0234 LATEST FLAME 16 (E,F) D Elsworth 3-8-5 J Williams 10
14 5032 SPRING FLYER 16 (G) A Bailey 3-8-5 S Whitworth 6

9-4 Lookingforarainbow, 4-1 Awesome Power, 5-1 Spring Flyer, 6-1 Latest Flame, 7-1 Gold Blade, 12-1 Mahong, 14-1 others.

1.40 CHIPPENDALE HANDICAP (£3,158: 1m 5f) (15)

1 0041 STRAT'S LEGACY 6 (CD,F,G) D Arbuthnot 6-10-5 (5ex) J D Smith (7) 15
2 0000 VILLAGE GREEN 6 (B) K Cunningham-Brown 3-9-12 J Williams 9
3 2201 ARCTIC GUEST 7 (C,F,G) C Smith 3-9-7 (5ex) K Rutter (5) 14
4 0611 IBSEN 9 (C,G,S) R Akehurst 5-9-6 (5ex) L Carter (7) 12
5 6160 NORTHERN RAINBOW 27J (B,F) I Campbell 5-9-1 Dale Gibson 13
6 0060 HOTSOCKS 7 (G) Pat Mitchell 3-9-0 Kim McDonnell 6
7 5002 BROUGHTONS FORMULA 30 (B) Musson 3-9-0 D McCabe (5) 1
8 5222 ARC BRIGHT 9 R Hollinshead 3-9-0 A Garth (5) 10
9 6043 MEXICAN DANCER 16 (G,S) P Howling 4-8-12 M Tebbutt 5
10 6352 MILNGAVIE 11 (F,S) M Johnston 3-8-9 J Fanning 7
11 6405 HEAD TURNER 11 (D,G,S) C Wildman 5-8-7 D Biggs 3
12 5039 CRACKLING 11 (G,S) D Marks 4-8-5 N Adams 8
13 0000 KAPUCHKA 28 (B) K Cunningham-Brown 3-8-0 G Bardwell 4
14 0504 KENYATTA 6 A Moore 4-7-13 D Wright (5) 2
15 0060 FATAL SHOCK 93 K Wingrove 3-7-11 M Baird (7) 11

4-1 Strat's Legacy, 5-1 Ibsen, 6-1 Arctic Guest, 7-1 Broughtons Formula, 8-1 Arc Bright, Milngavie, 10-1 Northern Rainbow, 12-1 others.

2.10 REGENCY NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £3,028: 6f) (12)

1 0021 WORLD TRAVELLER 6 (B,CD,G) W O'Gorman 10-0 (7ex) Emma O'Gorman (3) 8
2 2613 FOUR OF SPADES 16 (B,CD,G) B Beasley 9-2 J Fanning 1
3 5003 NOBLE SPIRIT 11 R Hannon 9-1 J Williams 7
4 4003 WINDOW DISPLAY 6 (S) Mrs N Macauley 8-10 Dale Gibson 9
5 4010 SHUTTLECOCK 55 (S) R Phillips 8-10 A Clark 4
6 4500 THORNY BISHOP 11 (B) J Bridger 8-9 S O'Gorman 12
7 0005 MAZ 22 A Bailey 8-6 A Mackay 2
8 4336 WARWICK WARRIOR 9 P Haslam 8-5 J Quinn 6
9 0550 RISKIE THINGS 6 (V,C,F) J Moore 8-3 N Adams 5
10 0234 JUST GREENWICH 7 P Evans 8-2 S Sanders (5) 3
11 0650 MACE EL REEM 90 (B) P Howling 7-13 D Biggs 10
12 000 DARLIN'BUDS OF MAY 16 P Felgate 7-7 D Wright (5) 11

11-4 World Traveller, 5-1 Window Display, 6-1 Noble Spirit, 13-2 Four Of Spades, 7-1 Maz, 8-1 Thorny Bishop, 10-1 Just Greenwich, 12-1 Shuttlecock, 16-1 others.

2.40 ADAMS HANDICAP (£2,925: 5f) (10)

1 0000 THE INSTITUTE BOY 9 (V,CD,G) K Burke 3-9-10 S Webster 1
2 1265 PATSY GRIMES 35 (B,S) M Muggeridge 3-9-7 Mark Denaro (7) 3
3 0004 PALEY PRINCE 9 (D,F,G) M Usher 7-9-6 C Adamson (7) 4
4 0340 FIVE ISLANDS 66 (B,CD,G) Mrs N Macauley 3-9-4 Dale Gibson 9
5 8200 COMET WHIRLPOOL 7 (B,D,G) Pat Mitchell 3-9-4 J Quinn 10
6 0016 SERIOUS HURRY 9 (CD,BF,F,G) C C Elsey 5-9-4 B Rouse 5
7 5132 THE NOBLE OAK 9 (B,CD,F,G) M McCormack 5-8-13 J D Smith (7) 2
8 0561 NOT SO GENEROUS 9 (CD,F,G) W G M Turner 3-8-11 P McCabe (5) 8
9 11-0 BATTLING BELLA 50 G Moore 4-8-4 A Morris 7
10 3350 APOLLO RED 22 P Harris 4-8-3 N Adams 6

4-1 Not So Generous, 9-2 The Noble Oak, 6-1 Five Islands, Serious Hurry, 8-1 Comet Whirlpool, Paley Prince, 10-1 Patsy Grimes, 16-1 others.

3.10 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP (£3,002: 1m) (12)

1 0302 WAVE HILL 11 (B,D,F,G) P Hedger 4-9-12 Stephen Davies (3) 9
2 0206 RESPECTABLE JONES 6 (C,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 7-9-12 A Garth (5) 1
3 0000 NOBBY BARNES 11 (CD,G) D Wilson 4-9-9 D McCabe (5) 2
4 4640 MARK'S CLUB 9 (B,CD,G) R O'Sullivan 3-9-6 A Clark 5
5 6060 ISLAND KNIGHT 11 (G) M Ryan 4-9-5 P McCabe (5) 3
6 2001 SALBYNG 9 (V,CD,G,S) J Hills 5-9-5 (6ex) S Whitworth 12
7 0003 PIGALLE WONDER 11 (B,CD,G) R O'Sullivan 5-9-3 D Biggs 4
8 0003 YUNUS EMRE 92 (V,G) J Arnold 3-8-13 M Fenton (3) 10
9 2425 PLEASE SAY YES 131 J Fitch-Heyes 3-8-13 J Fanning 8
10 6564 QUINZII MARTIN 22 (V,CD,G) D Haydn Jones 5-8-13 J Williams 11
11 3131 MASTER BEVELED 6 (C,G) P Evans 3-8-13 (6ex) S Sanders (5) 6
12 3005 CALISAR 9 (G,S) W G M Turner 3-8-12 T Sprake

9-2 Salbyng, 5-1 Master Beveled, 6-1 Wave Hill, 7-1 Respectable Jones, 8-1 Pigalle Wonder, Please Say Yes, 10-1 Calisar, Quinzii Martin, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Harris, 3 winners from 11 runners, 27.3%; R Hollinshead, 11 from 50, 22.0%; W O'Gorman, 33 from 154, 21.4%; Bob Jones, 3 from 14, 21.4%; Lord Huntingdon, 15 from 71, 21.1%; M Johnston, 18 from 90, 20.0%.

JOCKEYS: Emma O'Gorman, 34 winners from 147 rides, 23.1%; K Rutter, 9 from 45, 20.0%; S O'Gorman, 15 from 92, 16.3%; Stephen Davies, 7 from 46, 15.2%; J Williams, 49 from 344, 14.2%; L Carter, 3 from 22, 13.6%

Carvill's Hill misses Chepstow

THE reappearance of Carvill's Hill has again been delayed. Martin Pipe's gelding, sidelined since being injured in the 1992 Gold Cup, was yesterday pulled out of the Coral Welsh National at Chepstow on December 28.

The 11-year-old has also missed possible engagements in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup and last Saturday's Rehearsal Chase. But a spokesman for the champion trainer insisted there was nothing amiss. "The horse is perfectly all right but Martin is treading carefully with him. It's just that he's not quite ready," said the spokesman.

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RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

Plumpton

Going: soft (final fence and hurdle omitted)

12.45 (2m 4f hdle) 1, SEEKIN CASH (J Osborne, 7-2); 2, Simply (G McCourt, 2-1 fav); 3, Esprit de Femme (J Akehurst, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 Nobleiy (4th), 10 Jimill, 25 Caspian Gates (pu), Time Enough (6th), 50 Balustrade (pu), Juniper Lodge (5th), Lalheen (pu), Peter Martin Two (pu), Too Clever By Half (pu). 12 ran. 12l, 30l, 2½l, 20l, dist. C Egerton at Chaddleworth. Tote: £5.80; £1.80, £1.30, £2.70. DF: £8.00. CSF £10.30.

1.15 (2m) 1, DEXTRA DOVE (S Earle, 6-4 fav); 2, Fred Splendid (R Dunwoody, 5-2); 3, Nathir (M A Fitzgerald, 3-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Briggs Builders (4th). 4 ran. NR: Midnight Story. 8l, 3½l, dist. R Alner at Blandford Forum. Tote: £2.50. DF: £2.10. CSF: £5.32.

1.45 (2m 1f hdle) 1, DERISBAY (D O'Sullivan, 15-2); 2, Manhattan Boy (A Thornton, 5-1); 3, Qualitair Memory (M Hourigan, 3-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Loch Duich (5th), 7 Greenwine (4th), 8 Roger's Pal (6th), 14 Cobb Gate, 16 Santa Ponsa Bay (pu), 25 Blake's Treasure, 33 Almost A Princess (pu), Yaafoor (f). 11 ran. 2l, 6l, 8l, 15l, 20l. J Bridger at Liphook. Tote: £11.60; £2.90, £1.90, £1.60. DF: £82.40. Trio: £68.70. CSF: £42.80. Tricast: £125.68.

2.15 (2m ch) 1, ROC COLOR (G Bradley, 6-4 jt-fav; Richard Evans's nap); 2, Galaxy High (M A Fitzgerald, 9-2); 3, Kabanski (J Osborne, 6-4 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 14 Country Mistress (4th), 33 Dawn Chance, Mottram's Gold (6th), Tapestry Dancer (5th). 7 ran. NR: Masroug. 3½l, 15l, 15l, 12l, shd. C Brooks at Lambourn. Tote: £3.00; £1.80, £1.80. DF: £4.90. CSF: £8.29.

2.45 (2m 1f hdle) 1, KABAYIL (J Osborne, 5-6 fav); 2, Handsome Ned (J Railton, 13-2); 3, Aloseili (M Stevens, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Wolver Gold (5th), 8 Djebel Prince (4th), 16 Tipp Down (pu), 20 Clever Dick (pu), Persian Luck (f). 8 ran. NR: Will James. 1l, 15l, ½l, 20l. C Egerton at Chaddleworth. Tote: £2.00; £1.20, £1.80, £2.40. DF: £2.90. Trio: £12.30. CSF: £7.24. Tricast: £45.79.

3.15 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, MISS FERN (D Meredith, 6-1); 2, Rufus (B Powell, 15-2); 3, Powder Boy (R Dunwoody, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Loch Blue (5th), 5-2 Shaston (4th), 12 Sheephaven (6th), 20 Macho Man, 50 Solent Lad (pu). 8 ran. NR: Buddy Holly, Fighting Days, Purback Dove. 2l, 2½l, 8l, 4l, 25l. R Dickin at Newent. Tote: £9.00; £1.20, £1.90, £1.50. DF: £26.40. Trio: £14.50. CSF: £44.55. Tricast: £235.72.

3.45 (2m 1f hdle) 1, JOVIAL MAN (M Perrett, 13-8 fav); 2, Kobyrun (J Railton, 6-1); 3, Castle Orchard (A Procter, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Sakil (5th), 4 Gold Glen (4th), 20 Johns Joy (6th). 6 ran. NR: Wessex Milord. 7l, 3½l, 15l, ½l, 25l. G Harwood at Pulborough. Tote: £2.60; £1.30, £2.80. DF: £7.50. CSF: £10.48.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £2,273.38 carried forward to Haydock today).

Placepot: £150.80.

Sedgefield

Going: good to soft, soft in patches

12.30 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, DAMCADA (W Marston, 5-1); 2, Over The Odds (A Maguire, 7-1); 3, Jubilata (C Dennis, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Raggerty (5th), 15-2 General Shot (6th), 12 Reach For Glory (pu), 14 Belforton, 25 Waweewawoo (pu), 33 Denticulata (4th), I'd Say Hardly (pu), 66 Ballybell, Hydeonian (pu). 12 ran. 1½l, 8l, sh hd, 10l, 1½l. D Wintle at Westbury-on-Severn. Tote: £7.90; £1.50, £2.40, £1.70. DF: £28.30. CSF: £38.28.

1.00 (3m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, JENDEE (A Larnach, 8-1); 2, Scottish Gold (A Maguire, 6-1); 3, St Ville (S Mason, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 fav Dawaam (f), 13-2 Bedastan, Hardihero (4th), 7 Shelton Abbey, 10 It's Not My Fault, 12 Jupiter Moon (5th), Ruttino, 16 Here Comes Tibby (6th), 25 Dutch Blues (pu), 33 Mr Fenwick, Waldorf T Beagle, 66 Speedy Sioux (pu). 15 ran. 7l, 8l, 6l, hd, 15l. J Hellens at Chester-le-Street. Tote: £8.20; £1.70, £2.30, £10.60. DF: £20.00. Trio: £188.10. CSF: £53.89. Tricast: £620.83.

1.30 (2m 1f ch) 1, DOWN THE ROAD (A Maguire, 7-1); 2, Vayrua (A Larnach, 8-1); 3, Seminoff (A Dobbin, 8-1). ALSO RAN: Evens fav Skelefor (ur), 13-2 West With The Wind (pu), 9 Hee Of Excitement (5th), 14 Wild Atlantic (4th), 66 Manor Ranger (ur), 100 Supreme Blusher (pu). 9 ran. 5l, 7l, 12l, 7l. J Johnson at Crook. Tote: £4.10; £1.40, £1.40, £2.00. DF: £8.00. Trio: £31.20. CSF: £55.57. Tricast: £415.26.

2.00 (2m 5f ch) 1, CELTIC SONG (T Reed, 8-1); 2, Durham Sunset (A Maguire, 11-10 fav); 3, Super Sandy (A Orkney, 66-1). ALSO RAN: 11-8 Chichell's Hurst (fell), 25 Bellegrove (ur), Sandedge (f), 50 Lady Be Brave (4th), 100 Panto Lady (f). 8 ran. 6l, dist, hd. W Reed at Hexham. Tote: £6.60; £1.10, £1.40, £3.70. DF: £5.50. CSF: £16.32.

2.30 (2m 5f ch) 1, LUPY MINSTREL (B Storey, 7-1); 2, Night Guest (A Dobbin, 7-4 fav); 3, Funny Old Game (K Johnson, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 6 Grey Minstrel (4th), Merkmoore, 10 Bad Trade (6th), 20 Red Columbia (5th). 7 ran. ¾l, 15l, 2½l, 5l, 8l. C Parker at Lockerbie. Tote: £6.30; £2.10, £1.60. DF: £10.90. CSF: £18.60.

3.00 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, FLASH OF REALM (A Dobbin, 100-30); 2, Manwell (D Bentley, 10-1); 3, Inan (M Dwyer, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Lampinta (f), 6 Boring (f), 33 Mrs Norman (4th), 100 Dougal's Birthday (pu), Golden Supreme (pu). 8 ran. 15l, 5l, 1½l. P Monteith at Rosewell. Tote: £4.00; £1.40, £1.70, £1.20. DF: £14.20. CSF: £31.98. Tricast: £123.33. Placepot: £168.40.

West Ham reap rewards of transfer dealing

By Keith Pike

WEST Ham United may not be able to match the millions invested by Manchester United or the blank chequebook Kenny Dalglish wields at Blackburn Rovers, but if there was a prize for the shrewdest piece of football transfer business this season, Billy Bonds would walk away with it.

Bonds knew he was taking a gamble when he sold Julian Dicks to Liverpool for £1.5 million in September. The full back may have had a dreadful disciplinary record, but he remained the supporters' favourite and, with the team struggling on its return to the FA Carling Premiership, there was a threat of unrest on the terraces at Upton Park.

Tonight, though, when Leeds United play in east London, they will be taking on a team transformed. Such has been the impact made by David Burrows and Mike Marsh — who left Anfield as makeweights in the deal — and Lee Chapman, who was bought from Portsmouth with the cash left over, that Dicks's departure has almost been forgotten.

"Fortunately, their arrival paid dividends from day one, when we won 2-0 at Blackburn, and it has given the whole club a lift," Bonds said. West Ham have lost only two of their last 12 games, at Anfield and St James' Park, and conceded only six goals in the process to rise to tenth in the Premiership, the club's best placing for seven years.

Burrows has revelled in the opportunity to attack from left back and Marsh, who missed the victories at Southampton and Wimbledon last week because of a family bereavement, has been a key figure in midfield as West Ham have added a touch of steel to their more traditional attributes of accurate passing and attractive approach play.

Chapman, too, has made an impact with his eighth English club. "He has taken a lot of weight of Trevor Morley's shoulders," Bonds said. Morley had not scored in seven games before Chapman's arrival but has managed seven goals since, while Chapman, who was 34 on Sunday, has also scored seven, including three in the last two matches. Leeds, one of Chapman's former clubs, will be hoping that Pemberton and Wetherall, their central defenders, pass late fitness tests.

Tonight's match will be the sternest test yet of West Ham's revival. Leeds's form — eight wins and five draws in 13 matches — is bettered only by Manchester United and, much as Howard Wilkinson's decision to pay Sheffield United £2.7 million for Brian Deane was derided at the time, the investement is beginning to pay off. Deane has scored four goals in Leeds' last five games and his strike partner, Rod Wallace, six in six.

Sheffield Wednesday, who have been following West Ham's climb up the table, will also be defending a long unbeaten run tonight. Wednesday, who travel to Aston Villa, have not lost in 12 league and cup games.

Chelsea, one goal in the last 12 hours and having taken one point from 27, may be without Dennis Wise, their captain, for the visit of injury-hit Wimbledon.

Galatasaray, the Turkish champions who knocked Manchester United out of the European Cup, will have to overcome unfamiliar conditions as well as Spartak Moscow if they are to maintain any realistic hopes of progress in the Champions' League. Their flight from Istanbul was delayed for three hours because of heavy snow in Moscow. The other match in group A sees Barcelona, the favourites, at home to AS Monaco. In group B, Werder Bremen play Anderlecht, while Milan prepare to play São Paulo in the Inter-continental cup in Tokyo on Sunday.

Rees gets kick out of his part in second famous victory



John Hopkins

At the University match

A GAME fit to set before a king? No. There had been one of those ten days earlier, when England vanquished the All Blacks.

Was it, then, a match to send the 66,000, a record attendance for the fixture, into choruses of "Swing Low Sweet Chariot"? Not really. In time, the 112th University match may come to be seen as a watershed. If truth be told, though, it was the occasion that was on display more than the game. In time, the attendance for this match will settle down to its own level.

Peering down on the pitch from 75ft up in the smart new East stand, one could sense the ferocity of what was happening before us. You could still hear them calling one to another and watch the play unfolding. There was a distinct nip in the air, too. Goodness knows how cold it was in the highest seats, 105ft above ground level and perhaps 300ft from the touchline.

From time to time there intruded into one's mind ghostly echoes of England's victory over New Zealand. Not that that worried Gareth Rees, Oxford's Canadian stand-off with the Welsh antecedents. For Rees, who had kicked his country to victory over Wales with a conversion in injury time in Cardiff last month was now the mastermind and deadly boot that took Oxford to victory over Cambridge.

Rees knew Twickenham from old. He knew the way the wind blows, that the flags can be limp on one side of the pitch and standing out stiffer than a newly starched shirt on the other. It swirls and eddies, here one minute, gone the next. He had first played at Twickenham as a teenager in 1986. Now, on this crisp, clear afternoon, when shafts of sunlight stole across Cambridge's 22 just before the start, he showed all the experience he has acquired in 23 appearances for Canada.

Rees is six-feet tall with more than a hint of a spreading stomach. There is no need to hint at it actually, because the programme notes said it all: "... he is probably the first Oxford No 10 ever to take the field in size 38 shorts. Has a taste for Big Macs and was fined heavily on tour for wanting to play prop".

> 'Rees is 6ft with a hint of spreading stomach. The programme said he was fined on tour for wanting to play prop'

Though Rees's first penalty went over in the 16th minute, it wasn't his first kick. He had attempted one from well inside his own half minutes earlier. A bit ambitious, one thought as he indicated his intentions, but Rees is nothing if not confident.

"How would I describe him?" Chad Lion-Cachet, Oxford's captain, mused later, a smile playing around his mouth at the thought of his teammate. "Effervescent, vivacious, a team man through and through. Some internationals mix in, some don't. Gareth definitely mixes in. He told the lads before the match that this was just like an international for him."

Rees's first kick was head height, wobbling and dropping fast and more than a few light blue supporters laughed at it. No matter. His kicking against Major Stanley's XV at Iffley Road had been shaky at the start, too, four in the first half going wide. Then he got the measure of it and so, up to a point, did he yesterday.

Just before half-time, he dropped a goal from 40 yards, the ball barely rising higher than the crossbar at any time during its passage. Then he kicked a penalty soon after half-time, taking Oxford to 12-3, and a third penalty midway through the second half.

Rees will remember his first University match for these successful kicks. He may want to forget his last attempt. It was from directly in front of the posts, no more than 15 yards out. He missed it, the ball smacking into the junction of the crossbar and the left upright. It didn't matter because Oxford had won by then.

There are six Welshmen involved with rugby at Oxford and when Rees returned there after the game against Wales it could have been a bit tense. "He was *persona non grata* for a while after that performance. But he has a lovely sense of humour. He gave us all a leek," Lynn Evans, the director of rugby at Oxford, said.

"Anyone's got to be happy with a win at the Arms Park followed by such a victory as this," Rees said, grinning, and off he went to buy his father a drink. Father had watched son at Cardiff and watched him again at Twickenham. They had something to celebrate. They both deserved a drink.

Walker accentuates the positive before meeting Internazionale

Norwich plan to defy Uefa Cup odds

ROSS KINNAIRD



Enjoying a taste of things to come, Gunn, the Norwich goalkeeper, practises in the San Siro yesterday before the Uefa Cup meeting with Internazionale



Rob Hughes looks at the task facing the English underdogs in the San Siro stadium

AS THE Norwich City players stepped out onto the San Siro turf in desultory weather last night, some of them looked up into the steep bank of some of the most expensive seating in the world. It will cost spectators around £75 to watch Norwich's attempt to become the first English club to beat an Italian side in European competition in Italy for more than a decade. Beyond that, since they are already a goal down after the game at Carrow Road two weeks ago, it requires an enormous leap of faith for Norwich even to contemplate victory by two goals.

Yet they do. Mike Walker, their defiant manager, will tell them in the dressing room before their Uefa Cup third-round, second-leg tie to respect Internazionale, but not go out in awe of them. He will suggest that if they play the game properly, they can — and will — win 2-0.

As the players performed their workout in the stadium yesterday, the sheer enthusiasm of Jeremy Goss took the eye. Now 28, born in Cyprus and a Wales international, his personal transformation over ten years at Norwich is surely a message that anything can happen if a player has both the desire and the opportunity. In the season and a half since Walker became manager, Goss has blossomed from a makeweight in the team pool into a midfield player who can come from the deep positions and score magnificent volleyed goals against any opposition on any stage. He has already done it against Bayern in Munich and has scored three times in five Uefa Cup games so far.

Yet all is far from hope and faith and charity with Norwich. Robert Chase, their chairman, confirmed yesterday that at least one of his players, Darren Eadie, the young winger, is paid precisely £150 a week, and stands to win more than his annual salary in one night should he participate, even as a substitute, as he did in Norwich's uplifting exhibition of skills and willpower at Old Trafford last Saturday. That performance, in which the ground control of the Norwich passing was at least equal to much of Inter's work this season, fuels the insistence by Walker that the away form of Norwich means this tie is far from over.

Their task, however, is complicated by the loss through suspension of three key performers — the playmaker, Ian Crook, the captain, Ian Butterworth, and most crucial of all, the sweeper, Ian Culverhouse. Walker would not confirm yesterday that he even intends to play with a sweeper in Milan, but, by musing that the extra man at the back has been an integral part of Norwich's success and that it buys time and space to allow Norwich to play, the hint was broad enough. The players expect David Bowen, 29, the stylish Welsh full back, to step into the breach and start a match as sweeper for the first time in his long career. Given the unruffled calm of his game against Manchester United and the readiness with which he switched roles at the manager's behest when Butterworth was injured on Saturday, the players can place their trust in him.

To underestimate Internazionale would be folly. Their team has players, including Dennis Bergkamp and Ruben Sosa, who can destroy any defensive garrison. They should have proved it at Carrow Road, where Bergkamp admits he was strangely profligate, and they did give a demonstration of emphatic power in their away game at Lecce in the league last Sunday.

There, Bergkamp did score, but his Dutch partner, Wim Jonk, was absent through injury, an absence that merely allowed the Russian, Igor Shalimov, to step back into the team and to score twice. Shalimov is some substitute. His first touch with his left foot is almost magnetic, yet he can bend the ball 30 yards through the air to strike at goal from virtually any angle.

Goss's career should, nevertheless, offer hope for the English club. It was said for him many years ago by Laurence Sterne, who almost anticipated the quality as "Perseverence in a good cause, obstinacy in a bad one". The cause, for the good of English football, is certainly a worthy one and, until the final whistle in Milan this afternoon, a hopeful one.

INTERNAZIONALE (probable: 3-5-2): W Zenga — G Bergomi, S Battistini, M Paganin — A Pagarni, F Dell'Anno, I Shalimov, D Fontolan, A Orlando — D Bergkamp, R Sosa.

NORWICH CITY (probable, 1-3-4-2): B Gunn — D Bowen — J Polston, R Newman, C Woodthorpe — D Sutch, J Goss, G Megson, R Fox — L Power or E Ekoku, C Sutton

Roker pantomime brings few laughs

Louise Taylor reports on the problems facing Sunderland Football Club as it struggles to restore its reputation

AS the Christmas pantomime season gets into full swing, few productions can rival the comedy of errors being staged at Roker Park.

Gleefully renamed "Blunderland" by Newcastle supporters, Sunderland Football Club is in turmoil. The team is near the bottom of the first division. This season it lost seven successive matches, its worst sequence for 17 years.

Sunderland dismissed Terry Butcher, who boasted the poorest managerial record in their 114-year history, 12 days ago, two hours before the chairman, Bob Murray, resigned.

The club hopes to relocate to a new £70 million stadium and leisure complex at nearby Washington. Unfortunately, the proposed site adjoins land owned by the Japanese car manufacturers and leading local employer, Nissan. It objects, arguing that the proposed development would interfere with motor delivery deadlines.

The consensus is that the scheme will become the subject of a 12 to 18 month public enquiry in January, when the proposals are scheduled to be put forward for planning permission. It seems bizarre that Sunderland spent more than a year acquiring funding for the project before discovering that Nissan would dig its heels in so deep.

The club insists there are no suitable alternative sites, which could leave Sunderland stuck with Roker Park. Only essential repairs have been undertaken at the 100-year-old stadium in recent seasons and it is showing its age.

Anticipating moving grounds in 1995, the club received special dispensation from the Football Licensing Authority, freeing it from the requirement to make Roker Park an all-seat stadium by 1994. With relocation now in doubt, such dispensation could be withdrawn.

If so, Roker Park might have a capacity of only 8,000, all seated, next season. Even with a struggling side, Sunderland regularly attract around 17,000 and the board may have little choice but to cut its losses and invest upwards of £20 million on revamping the ground.

Most supporters are more worried about the team, but if the new ground falls through money is unlikely to be available for players. Butcher spent £2.8 million on five newcomers last summer but his failure to motivate the likes of Phil Gray and Derek Ferguson almost certainly cost him a career in football management.

Mick Buxton, his successor, has been told that difficulties with the new stadium dictate that he must sell before buying. Hardly a household name, Buxton, 50, seemed baffled by his elevation. His curriculum vitae includes spells in charge at Huddersfield and Scunthorpe but Buxton said he had "settled for walking the dog and being with the wife", before accepting the job. "I thought my managing days were over but I couldn't say no," he added.

Steve Coppell and Dave Bassett said no when sounded out about succeeding Malcolm Crosby before Butcher's appointment last February. Like Buxton, Coppell and Bassett are advocates of the long-ball game. But most Sunderland followers yearn to see a passing game, in the mould of Kevin Keegan's side at Newcastle.

Some at the club saw the landing of Butcher, a former England captain, as a similar publicity coup to Newcastle's capture of Keegan. It did not work out like that. The appointment of Buxton until the end of the season goes to the other extreme. Murray said there was a "lack of managerial talent around" at the moment. The outgoing chairman overlooked creditable candidates like Brian Little, of Leicester, and the Bolton Wanderers management team of Bruce Rioch and Colin Todd last season.

Little and Rioch have performed praiseworthy jobs at their present clubs. Increasingly the mood among Sunderland followers is that Rioch, a believer in quality passing and firm discipline, is the man to sort things out at Roker. Maybe if Murray had appointed the right man in preference to Butcher, he would still be chairman of a successful club.

While Newcastle supporters marvel at the brave new world inspired by Keegan and Sir John Hall, things seem ever more shambolic at Sunderland. A pantomime has been staged at Roker Park, but it cannot hold a candle to the real thing. No wonder the place is rapidly becoming known as Joker Park.

Fry ready to talk to Birmingham

By Peter Ball and Keith Pike

THE odds on Barry Fry succeeding Terry Cooper as manager of Birmingham City shortened considerably yesterday when he was given permission to speak to the first division football club.

Birmingham's approach for Fry had initially been turned down by Vic Jobson, the Southend United chairman, but yesterday Jobson relented: "I thought long and hard and in the end felt it was only right to let Barry hear what Birmingham had to say," Jobson said. "We could have insisted that he stuck by his contract, but maybe it's best to let him see what is on offer."



Maddock: resigning

Fry was due to begin negotiations with David Sullivan, the Birmingham owner, last night. "The potential at St Andrews is enormous," Fry said, "but whether I go there is another matter."

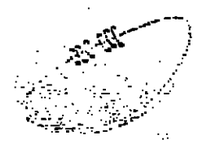
John Maddock, the Manchester City general manager, has followed his former chairman's example. Less than a week after Peter Swales resigned, Maddock yesterday did likewise after just over three months in the job.

"I'm going to ease the way for the new chairman," Maddock said. "He doesn't want public enemy No 2 around and I'm also going for the sake of the team. If I'm still around, the supporters will continue to attack me."

Maddock had been criticised by supporters for recommending the dismissal of Peter Reid as manager three weeks into the season and the appointment of Brian Horton as Reid's successor.

A consortium headed by John Mitchell, the former Fulham striker, which is hoping to buy David Kohler's majority shareholding in Luton Town, has been given until next Tuesday to complete the transaction.

MATCH FACTS



OXFORD UNIVERSITY 20 — CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY 8

Attendance: 66,000

POSSESSION ADVANTAGE

Oxford 40mins — Cambridge 43mins

SCRUMS

	Award	Won	Ag hd	Void
Oxford	12	12	1	0
Cambridge	8	7	0	1

LINEOUTS

	Award	Won	Void
Oxford	20	18	1
Cambridge	29	30	0

PENALTIES

	Award	Tap	Goal	Miss
Oxford	8	0	3	3
Cambridge	13	3	0	3

HALF BACKS

	Received	Run	Kick	Pass
Du Toit	61	4	8	49
Tynan	50	6	4	40
Rees	38	4	14	19
Kennedy	34	1	20	12

KICKS AT GOAL

	Total	Con	Miss
Rees	6	3	3
Tynan	4	0	4



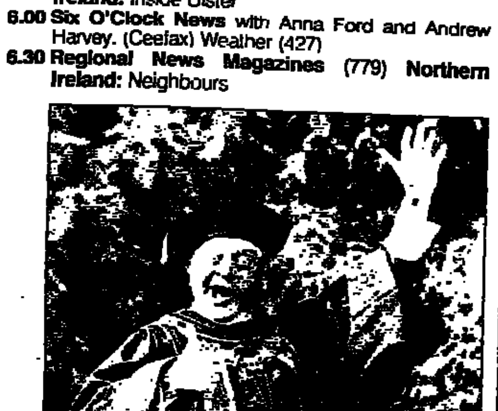
Boyle succeeded with one drop goal attempt and Rees succeeded with two of four for Oxford. Kennedy was successful with one of two drop goal attempts for Cambridge

Statistics compiled by Unisys

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BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (82717)
7.00 Breakfast News with Nicholas Witchell and Tanya Sillem (97292595)
9.05 Kilroy. The former MP chairs a topical studio discussion (s) (4757682)
9.45 Newshound. Current affairs quiz hosted by Ross King (s) (4315798)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1401330) **10.05 Playdays** (r) (s) (3080175)
10.30 Good Morning... with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine programme presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen (15212175)
12.15 Pebble Mill with guests singer-songwriter Gerard Kenny and lyricist Tim Rice (s) (9515601) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (57436048)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (57798)
1.30 Neighbours. Michael's plans for Julie are alarmingly successful while Rick and Debbie receive distressing news. (Ceefax) (s) (79061971)
1.50 Sportsnight Special. Live coverage of the Uefa Cup match between Inter Milan and Norwich City (57414021)
3.55 Harum Scarum. Picture book stories told by Sandi Toksvig, Bill Wallis and Jonathan Cohen (s) (1371021) **4.05 Rude Dog and the Dweebs** (r) (4613866) **4.20 Mortimer and Arabel**. Puppet comedy drama (s) (4634359) **4.35 Artifax**. Design appreciation, including a history of the teddy bear (s) (8584682)
5.00 Newsround (5298040) **5.05 Grange Hill**. Children's secondary school drama serial (r). (Ceefax) (s) (2534589)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (376885) **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) Weather (427)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (779) **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours



Rodney Dangerfield gets educated (7.00pm)

7.00 FILM: Back to School (1986) starring Rodney Dangerfield as an uncouth millionaire who enrols at his son's university as a freshman. With Keith Gordon and Sally Kellerman. Directed by Alan Metter. (Ceefax) (s) (28156)
8.30 Sitting Pretty. New comedy series starring Diane Bull as a woman determined to overcome adversity (Ceefax) (s) (2953)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Weather (5507)
9.30 CHOICE **States of Terror**. Lebanon. (Ceefax) (s) (712773)
10.20 Sportsnight. British heavyweight champion Herbie Hide meets Jeff Lampkin, the former IBF cruiserweight champion, for the WBC title in Sun City, Bophuthatswana. Plus, highlights of Norwich City's Uefa Cup third round match against Inter Milan, who are 1-0 up from the first leg (5648514)
11.30 Spenser for Hire. Spenser investigates the brutal murder of a pregnant woman and becomes embroiled in racial prejudice, the US Navy and a runaway Polish sailor (s) (128175)
12.20am Weather (8246575). Ends at **12.25**
2.15-5.15 BBC Select: Accountancy Television (363286) **3.15 Legal Network Television** (55809) **4.00 TV Edits – French 2 – TV5** (1972644) **4.45 ATV Promo 3** (37915)

BBC2

6.55 FILM: Strangers All (1935, b/w) starring May Robson as a matriarch trying to keep her unruly family in line. Directed by Charles Vidor (6855408)
8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) (2545663)
8.15 Westminster Daily (9337885)
9.00 FILM: You'll Find Out (1940, b/w). Horror spoof starring a trio of classic Hollywood villains, Boris Karloff, Peter Lorre and Bela Lugosi. Directed by David Butler (49663)
10.30 FILM: Dance, Girl, Dance (1940, b/w). Bouncy comedy with Lucille Ball as a burlesque queen, Bubbles. Directed by Dorothy Arzner (85755)
12.00 Play Chess! (r) (3081934) **12.10 Favourite Things**. Margaret Thatcher talks to Russell Harty (r) (8272514) **12.40 Dipstick**. Car maintenance (r) (61178514) **12.50 Animal Passions** (r) (2295205)
1.20 Children's BBC: Brum (r) (38468408) **1.30 Stoppit and Tidyup** (r) (23798021)
1.35 The Story of English Furniture. William and Mary (r) (20241934)
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (68141175) **2.05 A Testing Dilemma**. A new blood test which screens women for Down's Syndrome pregnancies (23870205) **2.35 CountryFile** (r) (s) (1671427)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (9087866)
3.05 Westminster Live. (Ceefax) (4750250) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional News and weather (1370392)
4.00 Catchword (s) (392) **4.30 A Question of Sport** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (576) **5.00 Today's the Day** (s) (2576) **5.30 Food and Drink** (r) (s) (156) **6.00 Star Trek** (r). (Ceefax) (746972)
6.50 Def II: Rough Guide to the Americas. A visit to Chile. (Ceefax) (412798)
7.30 Open Space: Knuckles of Love and Hate. A look at tattoos (Ceefax) (205)
8.00 Shooting the Writer. Salman Rushdie introduces a film about assassinated Algerian writer Tahar Djaout. (Ceefax) (683885)

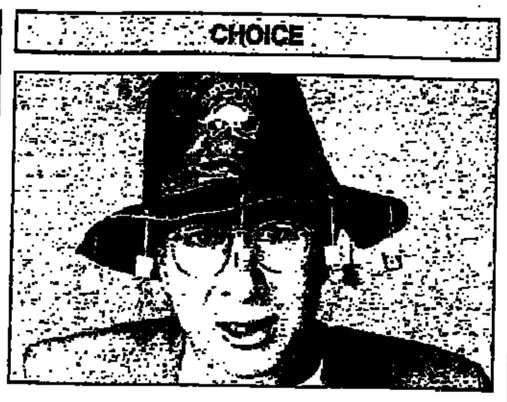


Salman Rushdie on war crimes (8.50pm)

8.50 Human Rights, Human Wrongs. Salman Rushdie on the atrocities committed in Bosnia in the name of "ethnic cleansing". (Ceefax) (s) (135840)
9.00 Seinfeld. American comedy. (Ceefax) (599156)
9.25 CHOICE **Stark** (Ceefax) (s) (635934)
10.20 CHOICE **Celebrity Mantelpiece: Paloma Picasso**. (Ceefax) (144175)
10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (795251)
11.15 The Late Show. A look at video art (145717)
11.55 Weather (871798)
12.00 Human Rights, Human Wrongs (r) (8733557)
12.10am FILM: Tudawali (1987). Moving account of the life of Aboriginal actor Robert Tudawali whose film success introduced him to the white man's world, something for which he was ill-equipped. Directed by Steve Jodrell (895002). Ends at **1.45**

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CHOICE



Ben Elton faces the end of the world (BBC2, 9.25pm)

Stark
BBC2, 9.25pm

Ben Elton adapts his much-praised eco-satire for the screen and plays his central character, the aspiring pommie writer at large in Australia. As portrayed by Elton, "CD" is a Chaplinesque little man who gets caught up in events beyond his control. As in the Chaplin films the hero acquires a pretty waif (Jacqueline Mackenzie) with whom to share his adventures. The first episode is forced to spend much of its time laying out the complicated plot. Simplified, it involves Elton, the girl and a pair of Vietnam veterans trying to thwart a corrupt business consortium as industrial pollution hastens an ecological Armageddon. At times there is too much story and the baddies tend to be caricatures. But Elton's sharp wit and social concern cannot help breaking through.

Dispatches
Channel 4, 9.00pm

An extended edition of the current affairs series re-examines the Marchioness tragedy and offers a radical challenge to the accepted version of events. The pleasure boat sank after a collision with the Bowbelle, a sand dredger, on the Thames, with the loss of 51 lives. There has never been a public enquiry or a full inquest. The programme argues that its new evidence, based on internal company documents and fresh eye-witness accounts, makes the case for both. It alleges shortcomings in the way the Bowbelle was operated and managed. It also disputes the official account of how and where the collision took place. But South Coast Shipping, the Bowbelle's owners, maintain that nothing would be served by a public enquiry.

States of Terror
BBC1, 9.30pm

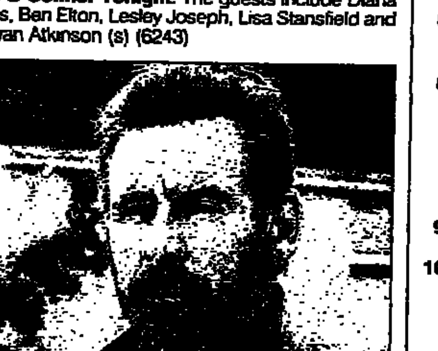
This account of terrorist activity in Lebanon during the 1980s covers similar ground as last night's Channel 4 programme, *From Beirut to Bosnia*. But while the latter gave the viewpoint of the Islamic fundamentalists, Peter Taylor's film looks at American policy. The Americans were hated by the Muslims because of their perceived support for Israel. The most powerful country on earth was humiliated by a small band of fanatics. After 241 marines died in a truck bomb attack, the Reagan administration talked tough and promised no deals with terrorists. Two years later it was trading arms for hostages. George Shultz, the then Secretary of State, admits he was appalled. But he tactfully stops short of calling Reagan a liar.

Celebrity Mantelpiece
BBC2, 10.20pm

Paloma Picasso, daughter of Pablo, proves that the rich and famous are attached to the same silly little mementoes as the rest of us. Her mantelpiece houses a bar of a chocolate from Yugoslavia which is only there because the brand name is Paloma. Her vanity is served by a *Time* magazine cover of herself. Otherwise it is photographs, of Paloma and her partner, of the two of them in dark glasses and the two of them with Tina Turner. She also offers her thoughts on escaping the shadow of her father, but the ten minutes are not long enough to be very revealing. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV presented by Lorraine Kelly and Eamonn Holmes (415595)
9.00 Top of the Morning. With Amanda Redington. Includes a mother and baby feature (9208224)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep. Game show (s) (9201311) **9.55 London Today** (3066595)
10.00 The Time ... The Place ... John Stapleton hosts a topical studio debate (s) (7570514)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine with Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley (15205514) **12.20 London Today** (9313866)
12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (2206311)
12.55 Coronation Street (r) (Teletext) (2214330)
1.25 Home and Away. Bobby tackles Greg over her suspicion that he is having an affair (Teletext) (26740779) **1.55 A Country Practice**. (74011476)
2.20 The Chrystal Rose Show. Chat show for Londoners (s) (17072866) **2.50 The Young Doctors**. (5070330)
3.20 ITN News headlines (9094156) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (9093427)
3.30 Children's ITV: Alphabet Castle (s) (3748576) **3.40 Wizadora** (1378934) **3.50 Old Bear Stories** (s) (3742392) **4.05 Avenger Penguins** (7652885) **4.30 Cartoon** featuring Tweety Pie (r)(8250205) **4.40 Woof!** A widow who appears in Mr Thomas's shop seems to have designs on him (Teletext) (s) (2885798)
5.10 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (5689458)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (986311)
6.00 London Tonight (Teletext) (10866)
7.00 Lose a Million. Game show with Chris Tarrant (s) (9866)
7.30 Coronation Street. Another person is accused of being Denise's caller while Bettabuy's Christmas party goes with a swing. (Teletext) (359)
8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight. The guests include Diana Ross, Ben Elton, Lesley Joseph, Lisa Stansfield and Rowan Atkinson (s) (6243)

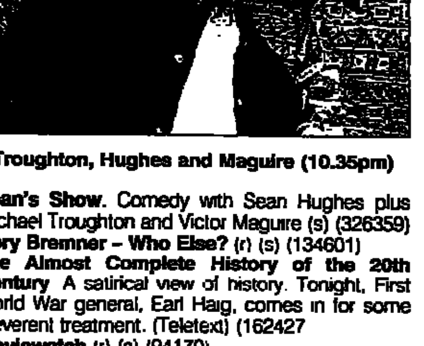


Derek Lord as a target of hitmen (9.00pm)

9.00 Crime Story. Dramatised account of how a three-man assassination squad was sent from Yugoslavia in 1988 to kill a Croatian exile, Nikola Stedul (Derek Lord), living in Scotland. Two were stopped at customs, but the third slipped into Britain and began to stalk his victim. (Teletext) (s) (3779)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (85682) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (678243)
10.40 Champions League Highlights. Action from tonight's second matches in the Champions League stage of the European Cup (174934)
11.40 FILM: Heart of a Champion: The Ray Mancini Story (1985). Based on the life of boxer Ray "Boom, Boom" Mancini. His father had been a contender for the lightweight title, but he suffered serious injuries in the Second World War. Ray was determined to win the title for his father. Starring Robert Blake. Directed by Richard Michaels (928408)
1.30 Hollywood Report (s) (42354)
2.00 The Chrystal Rose Show (r) (28335)
2.30 America's Top Ten (s) (30170)
3.00 Entertainment UK (78625)
4.00 60 Minutes. American current affairs series (29847)
5.00 Riviera. French drama serial (82996)
5.30 ITN Morning News (87147). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.30 Ulysses 31. Animation (r) (56755)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (30021)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. (r) (s) (89589)
9.30 Anne of Green Gables. The concluding part. Anne has ended her childhood feud with Gilbert, but a death at Avonlea changes her life (r). (Teletext) (17064953)
11.20 Devon Whey Vintage animation (9038576)
11.30 Blood Sweat and Glory. An exploration of the ethic of sportsmanship with golfers Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus, and Welsh rugby hero Barry John (r) (4392)
12.00 House to House. Maya Even presents news and views from Westminster (82595).
12.30 Sesame Street (38953) **1.30 The Magic Roundabout**, followed by **The Clangers, Paddington** and **Ivor the Engine** (32088)
2.00 FILM: The Glass Mountain (1949, b/w) starring Michael Denison and Dulcie Gray. A delight for fans of music and romance. A composer loses interest in his wife as he is inspired to write an opera by the majesty of the Italian Alps and a beautiful woman. Directed by Henry Cass (520243)
3.50 Little Tom Thumb. Animation (7642408)
3.55 Check Out 93. Consumer affairs programme (r) (s) (5161069)
4.30 Fifteen to One. (Teletext) (s) (972)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show Oprah interviews a man who refuses to acknowledge his child, claiming his lover became pregnant on purpose and "stole" his sperm. (Teletext) (s) (1190682) **5.50 Laurel and Hardy** (494021)
6.00 The Crystal Maze. Richard O'Brien challenges more contestants to overcome obstacles that lead to the prized Crystal Dome (r) (s) (18408)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (313088)
7.50 Party Political Comment A Labour Party politician airs an opinion. (Teletext) (933040)
8.00 Brookside. Soap set on Merseyside. Deadlock in the Rogers household while Sinbad loses the jacket and shirt off his back. (Teletext) (s) (6156)
8.30 Travelog The travel show for people travelling on a budget visits Japan. Robert Elms looks at special countryside flats where tourists can experience rural life and visits Mount Koya-San, a Buddhist centre with 120 temples. He also examines how Japanese society has changed as a result of the recession. (Teletext) (s) (5663)
9.00 CHOICE **Dispatches**. The Marchioness tragedy (911866)
10.00 The Golden Girls (r). (Teletext) (s) (588088)



Troughton, Hughes and Maguire (10.35pm)

10.35 Sean's Show. Comedy with Sean Hughes plus Michael Troughton and Victor Maguire (s) (326359)
11.05 Rory Bremner – Who Else? (r) (s) (134601)
11.45 The Almost Complete History of the 20th Century A satirical view of history. Tonight, First World War general, Earl Haig, comes in for some irreverent treatment. (Teletext) (162427
12.00 Moviewatch (r) (s) (94170)
12.30am-2.20 Maschenka Drama by John Mortimer, based on Vladimir Nobokov's novel set in a shabby Berlin boarding house in the 1920s. One of the residents, a young Russian exile, is unexpectedly confronted with his past. Starring Cary Elwes, Irina Brook and Freddie Jones (r) (774170)

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW. 4.00am** Bruno Brookes (**FM** only) **7.00** Mark Goodier **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jakki Brambles **3.00** Steve Wright **6.00** News '93 **6.30** Evening Session **9.00** The Knowledge: Alan Freeman confronts the music industry (r) **9.30** Dance Energy **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons (**FM** only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.05** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 **8.00** Womanfolk. Scottish a cappella group Stravaig **8.30** Harding with a Mike. Music from America **9.00** Sir Ranulph Fiennes's World of Christmas **9.30** Nigel Ogden: The Organist Entertains **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning Edition **9.00** Dilemmas **10.25** Johnnie Walker **12.30pm** Education Matters **1.00** News and Sport **1.10** The Crunch **2.00** European Football Extra. Inter Milan v Norwich in the Uefa Cup, third round, second leg **4.05** John Inverdale's Drive-In **6.30** Hero to Zero (4/6) **7.15** Children of the Mississippi. Song of the Trees. Stories by Mildred D Taylor (3/4) **7.30** Trevor Brooking's Football Night. Aston Villa v Sheffield Wednesday, Norwich v Blackburn, Liverpool v Queens Park Rangers **10.10** Hit the North **12.00-12.10am** News. Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin. Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Development '93 **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** American Icons **8.30** Quote, Unquote **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Country Style **9.30** Homeward Bound **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.01** Omnibus **10.30** Jazz for the Asking **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **Noon** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** New Ideas **12.35** Trees **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: *The Caravanners* **2.45** Good Books **3.00** News **3.15** Images of Britain **3.30** The Voices of America **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Nachrichten **7.05** Kaleidoskop **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.10** British News **10.15** Sports International: See Choice **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** Business Report **11.15** From Our Own Correspondent **11.30** Multitrack 2 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** The Voices of America **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Waveguide **1.40** Book Choice **1.45** The Farming World **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Sports International **3.00** News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Assignment **4.00** News **4.15** The Farming World

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. Bach (Concerto in C minor for violin and oboe) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Margaret Howard **7.00** Book Browse **8.00** Evening Concert: Sibelius (Karelia Suite, Scènes historiques, Suite No 1, Op 25: Violin Concerto in D minor: Symphony No 5 in E flat) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00-6.00am** Robert Booth

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Kevin Greening **4.00** Tommy Vance **7.00** Mitch Johnson **10.00** Kevin Greening **2.00-6.00am** Tommy Rivers

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (74011476) **2.20-2.50** Cooking At The Academy (17072866) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (5689458) **6.00** Home And Away (766750) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (631601) **10.40-12.20pm** Film: Seduced (80564156) **12.20am** Champions League Highlights (3486064) **1.20** The Equalizer (7660996) **2.20** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (3813259) **2.50** 60 Minutes (4942809) **3.40** Cue The Music (1251606) **4.35** Riviera (59924644) **5.05-5.30** Jobfinder (7226199)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.55 Shortland Street (74011476) **2.20** Gardening Time (17072866) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (5070330) **5.10-5.40** Talkabout (5689458) **6.00** Home And Away (766750) **6.25-7.00** Central News (631601) **11.40** Film: Weekend War (553243) **1.25am** Crime International (9511151) **1.55** Entertainment UK (3158083) **2.55** BPM (3228335) **3.55-5.20** Jobfinder

GRANADA
As London except: 12.55 Home And Away (2214330) **1.25** A Country Practice (82039330) **1.50** Coronation Street (20255137) **2.20** Highdays And Holidays (17072866) **2.50-3.20** Sons And Daughters (5070330) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (5689458) **6.00** Home And Away (595) **6.30** Granada Tonight (337066) **6.55-7.00** Stocking Up For Christmas (328359) **11.40** Film: Seduced (829798) **1.20am** The Equalizer (7660996) **2.20** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (3813259) **2.50** 60 Minutes (4942809) **3.40** Cue The Music (1251606) **4.35** Riviera (59924644) **5.05-5.30** Jobfinder (7226199)

HTV WEST
As London except: 2.20-2.50 Gardening Time (17072866) **6.00** HTV News (595) **6.30-7.00** Wish You Were Here..? (175) **10.40** Film: Seduced (84437885) **1.20am** The Equalizer (7660996) **2.20** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (3813259) **2.50** 60 Minutes (4942809) **3.40** Cue The Music (1251606) **4.35** Riviera (59924644) **5.05-5.30** Jobfinder

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.00 Wales At Six (595) **6.30-7.00** The Gen (175) **12.20am-1.20** Champions League Highlights (3486064)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (74011476) **2.20** Great House Cookery (17072866) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (5070330) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (595) **6.30-7.00** Serve You Right (175)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (74011476) **2.20-2.50** Beat The Chill (17072866) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (361205) **6.30-7.00** Cross Wits (175) **10.40-12.50pm** Film: Who Dares Wins (19420934) **12.50am** Champions League Highlights (2661557) **1.50** Hollywood Report (2512267) **2.20** Videofashion (3513259) **2.50** Transworld Sport (3229064) **3.50** Music Box (1264170) **4.50-5.30** Jobfinder (1076183)

ULSTER
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (74011476) **2.20** Crosswits (17072866) **2.50-2.55** Witness (8745885) **2.55-3.20** The Young Doctors (1688717) **3.25-3.30** UTV Live (9093427) **6.00-7.00** UTV Live At Six (10866) **10.40-12.20pm** Film: Seduced (80564156) **12.20am** Champions League Highlights (3486064) **1.20** The Equalizer (7660996) **2.20** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (3813259) **2.50** 60 Minutes (4942809) **3.40** Cue The Music (1251606) **4.35** Riviera (59924844) **5.05-5.30** Jobfinder

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.55 Take The High Road (20254408) **2.25** Westcountry Focus (17071137) **2.55-3.20** A Country Practice (1688717) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (10866) **10.40-12.20pm** Film: Seduced (80564156) **12.20am** Champions League Highlights (3486064) **1.20** The Equalizer (7660996) **2.20** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (3813259) **2.50** 60 Minutes (4942809) **3.40** Cue The Music (1251606) **4.35** Riviera (59924644) **5.05-5.30** Jobfinder (7226199)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (74011476) **2.20-2.50** Great Little Gardens (17072866) **5.55** Calendar (361205) **6.30-7.00** Cross Wits (175) **10.40-12.50pm** Film: Who Dares Wins (19430934) **12.50am** Champions League Highlights (2661557) **1.50** Hollywood Report (2512267) **2.20** Videofashion (3813259) **2.50** Transworld Sport (3229064) **3.50** Music Box (1264170) **4.50-5.30** Jobfinder (1076183)

S4C
Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (30021) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (89589) **9.30** Film: Anne Of Green Gables (17064953) **11.20** Devon Whey (9038576) **11.30** Blood, Sweat And Glory (4392) **12.00** House To House (82595) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (2204953) **12.55** Sesame Street (5349137) **1.55** Film: Dentist In The Chair (43301885) **3.30** Check Out '93 (953) **4.00** Slot 23 (7243) **5.00** Gamesmaster (2412) **5.30** Fifteen To One (224) **6.00** Newyddion (689175) **6.20** Cwlwm Serch (937840) **6.25** Heno (639243) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (7408) **7.30** Dim Ond Celf (601) **8.00** Glan Hafren (6156) **8.30** Newyddion (5663) **9.00** Halen Yn Y Gwaed (4021) **10.00** Brookside (83224) **10.30** Film: The Kill Off (88027408) **12.20am** Dispatches (3486286)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather
7.00 On Air: Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 3 in G, BWV 1048); Puccini (Crisantemi); Bartók (Six Rumanian Folk Dances); Dvořák (Prague Waltzes); Mozart (Ach ich fühl's, es ist verschwunden!, The Magic Flute); Beethoven (Romances: No 1 in G, Op 40; No 2 in F, Op 50)
9.00 An Advent Calendar: The Oxfordshire Youth Chamber Choir performs Trad (Good People All, this Christmas-time); Trad, arr Keyte/Parrott (Joy to the World)
9.10 Composer of the Week: Bizet. My life has its secret, Funeral March in B minor; Nocturne in D; The Fair Maid of Perth — excerpt, Roma
10.10 Midweek Choice: Suppé (Overture, Light Cavalry); Offenbach (So gleam with desire, The Tales of Hoffman); Massenet (Meditation, Thaïs); Bach, arr Busoni (Prelude and Fugue in D, MWV 532); Villa-Lobos (Toccata, Bachianas Brasileiras No 3), Bach (Sinfonia, Partita No 2 in C minor, BWV 826); Elgar, arr Jacobs (Sonata, Op 28); Pachelbel (Ciacona in D minor); Mathias (Festival Te Deum in C)· Vaughan Williams (Elihu's Dance of Youth and Beauty: Pavane of the Sons of the Morning); Godard (Canzonetta, Concerto Romantique, Op 35); Grieg (Remembrances, Op 71 No 7); Grofé (Thunderstorm, Grand Canyon Suite)
12.00 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Concert Orchestra under Barry Wordsworth (r)
1.00pm News 1.05 Concert Hall: Leland Chen, violin, Clare MacFarlane, viola, Caroline Dearnley, cello, Julius Drake, piano, perform Debussy (Cello Sonata); Fauré (Berceuse; Piano Quartet No 1 in C minor)
2.00 Record Review (r)
3.30 Music in Pepys's London: Purcell (Fantasias; Sonata in Four Parts No 7); William Lawes (Charon, O gentle Charon, The Catts as other creatures do; Musicke, the Master of thy Art is dead). The first of four programmes
4.00 Choral Evensong from Worcester Cathedral
5.00 In Tune, with Natalie Wheen. Monteverdi (Ciaccona; Zefiro torna), Berlioz (March of the Pilgrims, Harold in Italy); Tippett (Fantasia Concertante on a Theme of Corelli); Steve Martland (Re-Mix)
7.30 Premiere Ensemble under Mark Wigglesworth performs Mozart (Symphony No 38 in D, Prague, K504); Sally Beamish (Oboe Concerto, Tam Lin); Mozart (Symphony No 40 in G minor, K550)
9.15 The Rebirth of Nationalism: Robert Wistrich reflects on the tension dividing Europeans Tonight he looks at fascism
9.35 Palestrina: Mass as it may have been celebrated during Palestrina's time at the Basilica of St Maria Maggiore in Rome, on the Feast of Our Lady of the Snows. Palestrina (Missa Inviolata; Suscipe Verbum, Virgo Maria)
10.45 Night Waves, presented by Lisa Jardine
11.30 Ensemble: South American Impressions. Ginastera (Twelve American Preludes); Milhaud (Chamber Symphonies: No 1 and No 2; L'homme et son désir). Ginastera (Piano Sonata No 2)
12.30am News 12.35-12.45 An Advent Calendar (as 9am)
1.00-2.25 Night School (except in Scotland: as Radio 5 at 9am)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Midweek, presented by Libby Purves and Brian Hayes. With birthday guest, the actress Diana Quick
10.00-10.30 News; Gosling on the High Street (FM only): See Choice
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 The Bible (LW only). Hosea. Patrick Malahide reads the first of two selections (r)
10.30 Woman's Hour Sheila McClennon investigates soap operas as a means to educate the public. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time. Members of the Crarae Glen Gardens Charitable Trust in Inverary put their questions to Fred Downham, Daphne Ledward and Walter Gilmour. With Dr Stefan Buczacki in the chair (r)
12.00 You and Yours, with John Howard
12.25pm Up the Garden Path: The comedy by Sue Limb. With Imelda Staunton as Izzy and Mike Grady as Dick **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; Wednesday Afternoon Serial: The Crack. Patrick Anderson's *Saturday* isthe second in a four-play sequence by Liverpool writers. Hairdresser Carol (Cathy Tyson) has been deserted by God and her boyfriend of the past ten years
2.45 Treasure Islands: Michael Rosen and Ruth McCarthy choose paperbacks for Christmas
3.00 News; File on 4 (r)
3.40 It's a Funny Old World: Miles Kington discovers what makes Russians laugh
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Mark Steyn asks whether John Buchan is anything more than a dated adventure story writer; and there is an assessment of Fats Waller on the fiftieth anniversary of his death
4.45 Short Story: John-Jin, by Rose Tremain. Read by Siriol Jenkins
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Word of Mouth: Frank Delaney investigates the language of lying (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Costing the Earth, with Roger Harrabin (r)
7.45 Medicine Now (r)
8.15 Age to Age: Christopher Cook investigates long-forgotten papal directives (r)
8.45 Groucho Was My Father: In the first of three programmes, Miriam Marx Allen talks to Tony Staveacre (r)
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Richard Kershaw
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Pearl, by John Steinbeck. Gayle Hunnicut reads the fifth of seven episodes
11.00 Pedalling Backwards: In the first of four programmes, David Bean and Laurence Cantwell repeat their childhood bicycle trip through Yorkshire and Lancashire in 1947 (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

CHOICE

Gosling on the High Street. *Radio 4 FM, 10.00am*

The boy in Ray Gosling is a Meccano boy, not a Leggo one. We practically see his eyes misting over at the very mention of the metal strips with the half-inch holes. Frank Hornby, inventor of Meccano and Dinky toys and the OO gauge model railway, was one of his heroes and, in the company of Hornby's niece, he does some reverential weeding of the inventor's grave. However, it is she, not he, who says "Thank you for the pleasure and the joy" as she kisses a headstone that makes no mention of the nature of the joy which Gosling has shared with millions.

Sports International. *World Service, 10.15pm.*

Sports news takes second place to an epic miscarriage of justice in Mike Costello's documentary. It is an account of the 22 years it took for the black American boxer Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, sentenced to two life terms on a triple murder charge, finally to clear his name. Costello can do little more than pick out a few of the many threads in the national civil rights campaign that was waged on Carter's behalf. Some tight editing has worked wonders. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM 88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM 92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. **GLR:** 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. **COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY**

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (63116427) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (8865069) **9.00** Cartoons (11021) **9.30** Card Sharks (46205) **9.55** Concentration (7172446) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (7778779) **10.30** Love at First Sight (17205) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (86224) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (31885) **12.30pm** Paradise Beach (40021) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (45576) **2.00** Pearl (79446) **3.00** Another World (6698205) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (5825243) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (5069) **6.00** Games World (9595) **6.30** Paradise Beach (3175) **7.00** Rescue (6798) **7.30** Growing Pains (9359) **8.00** Hunter (97953) **9.00** Picket Fences (17717) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (87576) **11.00** The Untouchables (92507) **12.00** The Streets of San Francisco (20170) **1.00am** Night Court (43737) **1.30-2.00** Maniac Mansion (30118)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise Europe (21039) **9.30** Nightline (40885) **10.30** Fashion TV (99663) **11.30** Japan Business (33885) **12.30pm** News and Business Report (41309) **1.30** CBS News (91868) **2.30** Parliament Live (78446) **4.30** News and Business Report (9972) **5.00** Live at Five (648576) **7.30** Fashion TV (1971) **9.30** Talkback (68427) **11.30** CBS News (24427) **12.30am** ABC News (33793) **1.30** Fashion TV (28426) **2.30** Those Were the Days (25606) **3.30** Talkback (20151) **4.30** Beyond 2000 (39248) **5.30-6.00** CBS News (35441)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (5402601)
10.00 Ernest Scared Stupid (1991): Spooky adventure with Jim Varney (51137)
12.00 Under the Yum Yum Tree (1963): Wolfish Jack Lemmon tries to corrupt a young couple. With Carol Lynley (43021)
2.00pm Advice to the Lovelorn (1981): Cloris Leachman plays a troubled agony aunt (254249)
4.00 The Wrecking Crew (1968): Typical Matt Helm adventure with Dean Martin as the martini-swilling hero (3601)
6.00 Ernest Scared Stupid (as 10am) (32356088)
7.35 Special Feature: Christmas in the Movies: A look at festive films (323514)
8.00 Quick Change (1990) Bill Murray and Geena Davis rob a bank (93137)
10.00 The Hand That Rocks the Cradle (1992). Widow Rebecca De Mornay turns psychotic nanny (456446)
11.50 Intrigue (1990). Erotic drama (470446)
1.30am Futurekick (1991). Martial arts adventure with Don Wilson (9061880)
2.50 Descending Angel (1990): George C. Scott is accused of war crimes (970489)
4.25 Advice to the Lovelorn (as 2pm) (351915). Ends at **6.00**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm The Outlaw (1943, b/w). Howard Hughes's notorious western (65392)
8.00 Being There (1979)· A gardener's bewildered silence is mistaken as brilliance With Peter Sellers (50849514)
10.10 Rambo III (1988)· Sylvester Stallone to the rescue (517156). Ends at **11.45**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Black Beauty (1987). Cartoon version of Anna Sewell's story (26175)
7.00 The Canterville Ghost: A British ghost's haunt is disrupted (24866)
8.00 On Our Own Four siblings travel from California to Arizona (51040)
10.00 This Earth is Mine (1959): Grape wars break out in a Californian vineyard in the 1930s. With Claude Rains (12863601)
12.05pm Paris When It Sizzles (1963) Romantic comedy starring William Holden and Audrey Hepburn (282311)
2.00 High Hell (1958, b/w): A woman is stranded in a snowstorm with her husband and her lover With Elaine Stewart (57458)
4.00 On Our Own (as 8am) (1243)
6.00 Columbo: Bird in the Hand (1991). The shambling detective tackles another murder. With Peter Falk (89934)
8.00 Ruby (1992). Danny Aiello plays Lee Harvey Oswald's assassin (91779)
10.00 Let Him Have It (1991)· Fact-based drama about Derek Bentley who was hanged for murdering a policeman in 1952 (184717)
11.55 Netherworld (1991): A young man is plunged into supernatural world (281446)
1.25am The Further Adventures of Tennessee Buck (1988) Jungle romp starring David Keith (2526826)
2.55 Judgment (1990): A couple suspect that their son is being abused by a priest With Keith Carradine (1499489)
4.25 Columbo: Bird in the Hand (as 6pm) (2727996) Ends at **5.55**

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Soccer News (6398021) **7.15** Prime Bodies (575798) **7.45** Windsurfing (574069) **8.15** Soccer News (2041934) **8.30** The Boss (54175) **9.00** Prime Bodies (45427) **9.30** Field Hockey (82885) **10.30** Classic Super Bowls (33021) **11.30** The Football Show (61021) **1.00pm** Tennis: Grand Slam Cup (9689175) **6.00** Soccer News (868330) **6.15** Sportsworld (648864) **7.00** American Sports (20205) **8.00** Basketball (40069) **10.00** Soccer News (779750) **10.15** Tennis. Grand Slam Cup (964408) **12.15am** Netbusters (9244151) **12.30** Drag Racing (31151) **1.00** Motor World (35199)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (31798) **8.00** Figure Skating. Nations Cup (44717) **9.30** Tennis. Davis Cup, Germany v Australia (89359) **11.00** Eurogoals (40446) **12.00** Eurotennis (12175) **2.00pm** Eurofun (2750) **2.30** American Football: Philadelphia v Dallas (45224) **4.00** Winter Olympics Magazine (5330) **4.30** Athletics: Chicago Marathon (28330) **5.30** Show Jumping World Cup (20822) **6.30** Eurosport News (3359) **7.00** Boxing (32427) **9.00** Motors Magazine (44885) **10.00** Football: European Cups (17243) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (87828)

UK GOLD
7.00am GP (7238750) **7.30** Neighbours (7257885) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2391069) **8.30** EastEnders (2383040) **9.00** The Bill (2374392) **9.30** Juliet Bravo (5762335) **10.30** The Brothers (9771137) **11.30** Rhoda (7535156) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2394156) **12.30pm** Neighbours (8775243) **1.00** EastEnders (7237021) **1.30** The Bill (8774514) **2.00** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (4218021) **2.30** Get Some In (7443175) **3.00** Dallas (7539972) **4.00** Dynasty (7525779) **5.00** Blankety Blank (4232601) **5.30** Give Us a Clue (7414663) **6.00** Neighbours (7411576) **6.30** EastEnders (7435156) **7.00** Juliet Bravo (8561175) **8.00** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (4238885) **8.30** Get Some In (4217392) **9.00** Jemima Shore Investigates (8567359) **10.00** The Bill (2395885) **10.30** Cool it (2371205) **11.00** Top of the Pops: Christmas 1976 (4111595) **11.45** Dr Who (5958048) **12.15am** FILM: Advance to the Rear (1964, b/w): American civil war comedy with Glenn Ford and Melvyn Douglas (3361793) **1.55-7.00** Shopping at Night (68490460)

CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Ratkan II (239137) **9.00** Jack in the Box (38972) **11.00** Ratkan II (970972) **2.00pm** Iris and the Professor (29224) **3.00** RatKan II (6359) **3.30** Ovide and the Gang (6069) **4.00** Charlie Brown and Snoopy (7576) **4.30-5.00** Around the World in 80 Seconds (6068)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Dawn Patrol (35137) **7.30** Guts (37972) **8.00** Get the Picture (53446) **8.30** Wild Side Show (52717) **9.00** We All Have Tales (43069) **9.30** Fraggle Rock (52205) **10.00** Janosch's Dream (10935) **10.30** The World of David the Gnome (32953) **11.00** Sharon, Lois and Bram's Elephant Show (19601) **11.30** Eureeka's Castle (77243) **12.30pm** We All Have Tales (56021) **1.00** The World of David the Gnome (24408) **1.30** Wisdom of the Gnomes (55332) **2.00** Janosch's Dream (5224) **2.30** Story Time (4224) **3.00** Kaboodey (4359) **3.30** Out of Control (6069) **4.00** Fraggle Rock (5576) **4.30** Hey Dude (4088) **5.00** Clarissa Explains it All (6576) **5.30** Get the Picture (6040) **6.00** Guts (5953) **6.30** Welcome Freshmen (6205)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Challenge of the Seas (7432069) **4.30** The Arctic (7421953) **5.00** Valhalla (4230243) **5.30** An African Ride. Kenya (7412205) **6.00** Only in Hollywood (6143175) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4522392) **7.00** Australia Wild: Possums (4227779) **7.30** From Monkeys to Apes (7422682) **8.00** Fire (4236427) **8.30** Paramedics: Scottish Ambulance Service (4215934) **9.00** The Dinosaurs! (8558601) **10.00** Rediscovering America (8568088) **11.00** Waterways (7517750) **11.30-12.00** Earthfile (2203866)

BRAVO
12.00 Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman (2389224) **12.30pm** FILM The Blue Gardenia (1953, b/w)· A telephone operator wakes up next to a dead man. With Ann Baxter and Raymond Burr (91955392) **2.05** FILM. Offbeat (1961, b/w) An undercover agent falls in love with a robber With William Sylvester and Mai Zetterling (80478408) **3.20** Picture of Innocence (2422717) **4.00** The Flying Nun (7429595) **4.30** My Three Sons (7425779) **5.00** The Beverly Hillbillies (4234069) **5.30** Donny and Marie (7449359) **6.00** Honey West (7439972) **6.30** Scotland Yard (7420224) **7.00** The Big Valley (8556243) **8.00** FILM Tribute to a Bad Man (1956) Western starring James Cagney as a ruthless land baron (6543779) **10.00** FILM· Fear in the Night (1972) Suspence thriller with Judy Geeson (2830088) **11.30-12.00** The Twilight Zone (2290392)

UK LIVING
7.00am Jayne and Friends (5578359) **8.00** Fame, Fortune and Romance (1101773) **8.30** Living Daylights (2551214) **9.00** Divorce Court (4551484) **9.30** Hot Topics (8753175) **10.00** The Treatment (3269779) **10.30** Living Extra (8151458) **11.00** The Home Show (4186865) **11.30** Masterchef 1991 (4187595) **12.00** Practical Living (27774330) **12.15pm** Kilroy (1426175) **1.00** Crosswits (2477156) **1.30** Divorce Court (8723934) **2.00** Days of Our Lives (3260408) **3.00** Agony Hour (4181311) **4.00** Crosswits (1794640) **4.30** Infatuation (4476804) **5.00** Jayne and Friends (6986446) **6.00** Health UK (9626507) **6.30** Raw Energy (5921999) **7.00** Agony Hour (4125507) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (2125327) **9.00** FILM. The Abduction of Kari Swenson (1987): A true story (55296137) **10.50** Fame and Fortune (7723408) **11.30** Dr Ruth (3258663) **12.00-1.00am** Days of Our Lives (5525267)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm The Wonder Years (8576) **5.30** Danger Bay (2840) **6.00** Big Brother Jake (7953) **6.30** Catchphrase (8205) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (1040) **7.30** All Clued Up (7717) **8.00** Remington Steele (79595) **9.00** Neon Rider (99359) **10.00** WKRP in Cincinnati (68392) **10.30** The Bob Newhart Show (77040) **11.00** Newhart (36392) **11.30** Mary Tyler Moore (24779) **12.00-1.00am** Lou Grant (93064)

MTV
6.00am Wild Side (231595) **9.00** VJ Marijne (969866) **12.00** Greatest Hits (11972) **1.00pm** VJ Simone (22885) **2.30** The Pulse (52972) **3.30** The Report (6059243) **3.45** At the Movies (6054798) **4.00** News (5220750) **4.15** 3 from 1 (5243601) **4.30** Dial MTV (8446) **5.00** The Soul of MTV (8214) **5.30** Music Non-Stop (17934) **7.00** The Real World II (8458) **7.30** Most Wanted (74682) **9.00** Greatest Hits (91717) **10.00** The Report (867514) **10.15** At the Movies (862069) **10.30** News (472021) **10.45** 3 From 1 (477576) **11.00** Post Modern (85576) **1.00am** VJ Marijne (15860) **2.00-6.00** Night Videos (2071444)

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (93885) **7.00** Regional News (46886) **8.00** Hindi News (84330) **8.30** Urdu News (5299088) **8.45** English News Bulletin (5287243) **9.00** Guldasta (16224) **10.00** Pakistani FILM (958750) **1.00pm** Taalash (45750) **1.30** Hindi FILM: Farz. With Jeetendra and Babita (889156) **4.30** Kiddie Time (3514) **5.00-6.00** Dedicated to You (4137) **7.00** Mere Saath Chal with Pooja Bhatt (9040) **7.30** Worldline (5717) **8.00** English News (827137) **8.15** Hindi FILM: Suraag. With Sanjeev Kumar and Shabana Azmi (59635779) **11.15** Pal Jhar (433359) **12.05am** Five Past Midnight (5369996) **1.35** Sight and Sound (18467847)

TNT
Theme: A first world war tribute
7.00pm The Fighting 69th (1940, b/w). James Cagney stars in the story of an Irish regiment at war (33320446)
8.45 Three Comrades (1938, b/w): Three young friends in the 1920s fall in love with a girl dying of tuberculosis (41715885)
10.40 Captured (1933, b/w)· Leslie Howard, Douglas Fairbanks Jr and Paul Lukas in a story of love and betrayal (23638589)
12.00 Storm at Daybreak (1933, b/w): Love story based around the shooting of Archduke Ferdinand at Sarajevo (58337267)
1.30am Rendezvous (1935, b/w)· A decoding expert breaks a spy ring. With William Powell and Rosalind Russell (90476084)
3.15 Heroes for Sale (1933, b/w): A war veteran has trouble settling down after returning home. With Richard Barthelmess (94427880). Ends at **4.30**

CNN
Twenty-four hour news

CMT
Country music from midnight to 4pm

QVC
Home shopping channel

44
SIMON BARNES 39
APPEALING FOR A RULING ON WHAT IS FAIR IN SPORT

SPORT

CRICKET 40
WARNE'S FINALE LEADS AUSTRALIA TO SERIES WIN

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8 1993

Cambridge unable to exert control at Twickenham

Back-row trio pave way for Oxford

Oxford University 20
Cambridge University 8

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Richardson, the Cambridge flanker, prepares to fall on the ball as he is pursued by determined members of the Oxford pack yesterday at Twickenham

THE University match continues to defy both the restrictive modern rugby ethos and tactical thinking: a crowd of 66,000 at Twickenham yesterday enjoyed both an exciting match and Oxford's assertive denial that the team that controls the lineout controls the destiny of the game.

Oxford were entirely deserving victors of the 112th match against Cambridge, the first time they have held the Bowring Bowl since 1990 and their 48th win in the series against 51 by Cambridge. Their back row dominated the match and gave them a level of control that the Light Blues, for all the efforts of Roy, Bramley and Meadows, only looked likely to break once.

The turning point of a game in which Oxford were never headed came when Cambridge scored the try that took them to 12-8. The score permitted them to shake off the disappointment of three missed penalties by Tynan and consider the possibility of a win which had hitherto seemed out of sight: when Joy was caught in front of his own posts under a howitzer from Kennedy, the stage was set.

But Kennedy's drop at goal hit a post and within minutes Oxford were at the North end: Rees dropped for goal on the run and was narrowly wide, but his third penalty gave his side the points.

Even more heart-breaking was Oxford's clinching try: to their credit they had put pressure on Kennedy throughout and now du Toit charged down the stand-off's kick and pursued the ball before racing over. It was the justification for his selection which had been in the balance even at the start of the match.

"I was pleased to have made that selection," Lion-Cachet, the winning captain, said. "It has been very difficult at Oxford this term because we had strength in depth and there were 22 players who might have won a Blue. Fanie was out of my books but he proved me right in the end."

Lion-Cachet revelled with his back-row colleagues, Aitken and Martin. These two effectively wrapped up any Cambridge effort to bring continuity to their game: primary possession was not a Light Blue problem but retaining the ball was and towards the end Lion-Cachet admitted that he was content to concede penalties in order to retain his 12-point cushion.

At that stage Cambridge had to work for a try, but they must have been disappointed that their fine start on a bright but crisp and windy day had earned them nothing. Not only could Tynan not find his kicking touch but the decisions of how and where to run the ball were going awry. Once Meadows, who had an effective game at No 8, turned back to his forwards when there was space for his threequarters and Oxford emphasised their missed opportunities by snapping up their own.

Rees, the Canadian whose kicking beat Wales a month ago, chipped over a close-range penalty and Boyle snapped over a slightly-inebriated dropped goal. Callow, Cambridge's captain, left briefly for repairs but returned as Kennedy dropped a goal of his own.

It was the signal only for the Cambridge line to come under siege: the lively Rayner made a hole and first Rees, then Henderson, went close. But Oxford had to be content with Rees's second dropped goal, long and low from 40 metres, to give them a half-time advantage of 9-3. Buoyed up by Tynan's inability to close the gap Rees powered through only to be gobbled up by the voracious Richardson and du Toit sustained the pressure.

Oxford ran the ball wide and were unfortunate not to be awarded a penalty try when Arentsen knocked down the final pass between Rayner and Joy. At 10 metres from the line a try certainly seemed likely, but Derek Bevan was having none of it. Rees had to be satisfied with the goal instead but, for the first time, Oxford appeared to relax slightly.

For once Cambridge found space and Flood sliced through to provide Boyd with the try and then went off injured.

Rees remarkably missed the easiest goal of all, a penalty from only 12 metres which hit a post and caused his captain some anguish.

SCORERS: Oxford University: Try: du Toit. Penalty goals: Rees (3). Dropped goals: Boyle, Rees. Cambridge University: Try: Boyd Dropped goal: Kennedy.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: M T Joy (Marling and Keble); R V Wintle (Cynffig CS, Bridgend and University), S Boyle (Brasenose College and Keble), E J Rayner (Dauntsey's and Oriel), T C S Watson (Radley and St Edmund Hall); G L Rees (St Michael's University Sch, Vancouver and Keble), S F du Toit (Paul Roos Gymnasium, Stellenbosch and Christ Church), B Fennell (St Edward's, Oxford and Keble), D S Henderson (Glenalmond and Keble), C J Clark (Marlborough and Keble), C C Lion-Cachet (Pretoria HS and Keble, capt), J B B Daniell (Wanganui Collegiate and St Catherine's), D R Evans (Bro Myrddin, Carmarthen and St Anne's), N F C Martin (King Edward's, Birmingham and Keble), A D Aitken (Durban HS and Keble).

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: A L Dalwood (St Alban's and St Edmund's); A N Arentsen (Cardiff HS and Corpus Christi), J P Flood (Stonyhurst and St Edmund's), A J Pailrey (St Cyre's and Hughes Hall), A Boyd (St Olave's and Jesus); A J S Kennedy (Fettes and St John's), C J C Tynan (Magee HS, Vancouver and Hughes Hall); T J Hughes (Harrow and Trinity), A J G Read (RGS High Wycombe and Hughes Hall), P G Callow (Oakham and Fitzwilliam, capt), P C M Irons (Wellington College and Hughes Hall), R A Bramley (QEGS Wakefield and St Edmund's), W S Roy (David Hughes, Menai Bridge and Hughes Hall), N D Richardson (King's, Worcester and St Edmund's), A J Meadows (Sedbergh and St Edmund's). Flood replaced by C W Thompson (Arnold and Magdalene) 68mins; J F Duckworth (Bradford GS and St Edmund's) temporarily replacement for Callow (32-34).

Referee: W Bevan (Wales).

Olympic overhaul threatens to hit five sports

FROM DAVID MILLER
IN LAUSANNE

THE Programme Commission of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) dropped a little bombshell on the table here yesterday that could become a big one: the proposed exclusion from future Games of five sports — boxing, cycling, equestrianism, modern pentathlon and synchronised swimming.

Last night, the IOC and those associated with the discussion were swearing themselves to secrecy, but the news has already, it seems, filtered widely across Europe.

Although it is by no means certain that the IOC full membership — which next meets in session at the Winter Games in Lillehammer in February — would approve such extreme alteration to the programme, or even that the executive board would recommend it wholesale, the shockwaves will ripple round the world of sport.

Sound reasons, of course, do exist for trimming the programme of the five sports that are, I understand, under threat, in order to introduce more popular, widespread or less expensive events. Boxing, for instance, has increasingly been viewed as questionable on several grounds.

Equestrianism is considered to be a relative elitist and minority sport as well as expensive for the competitors and the organising committee of each successive Games.

Modern pentathlon has long been a target, because of its complexity and the tiny number of international competitors, though many would regret its passing. It was devised by de Coubertin because it epitomises the best spirit of Olympic competition.

Few would complain, apart perhaps from the competitors, of the elimination of synchronised swimming.

The oddity among the five, at least at first glance, is cycling, a seemingly thriving and relatively inexpensive sport, though of course most of the competition, outside the Olympics, is on the roads.

There will of course be dismay within the ranks of the international and national federations of all those sports on this hit list, but I think that point of elimination is still at this stage some way off.

Walton earns late victory

Oxford Under-21 10
Cambridge Under-21 ... 12

BY DAVID HANDS

CAMBRIDGE were three minutes away from a sad saga of missed opportunities when Tim Walton scored the try which, with Jonas Hurst's conversion, earned victory in the fifth under-21 University match at the Stoop Memorial Ground yesterday.

Had they relinquished their grip on the Bowring Plate they would have kicked themselves, having missed six attempts at goal after playing most of the attacking rugby.

Yet there was a delightful twist to the vital score: Cambridge forced a scrum 20 metres out and Dan Maslen limped away on what appeared to be a dummy run. It baffled the Oxford back row and Russell Earnshaw sent Walton through.

It had taken Oxford the first quarter to pass Cambridge's ten-metre line, by which time Hurst had crowned the light blues' early supremacy with a try. But John Sackree kicked a 40-metre penalty to make the interval score 5-3 and the Oxford forwards reasserted themselves at the lineout. Richard Yeabsley took the direct route to goal and Oxford's defensive organisation looked likely to carry the day — until the dying moments.

SCORERS: Oxford University Under-21: Try: Yeabsley Conversion: Sackree Penalty goal: Sackree Cambridge University Under-21: Tries: Hurst, Walton Conversion: Hurst

OXFORD UNIVERSITY UNDER-21: J Sackree (St Edmund Hall), C Smart (Trinity), X Gladstone (St Edmund Hall), J Dargie (Brasenose), J Tilley (Pembroke), M Butler (St Edmund Hall), R Brown (St Aughtin), G Hamp (Keble), T Bennett-Britton (Oriel), D Grant (Worcester), M Freer (Gloucester, captain), R Paul (Keble), C Smith (Keble), A Bridgwood (Keble), R Yeabsley (Keble).

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY UNDER-21: T Walton (Downing), P Mesman (Queens'), J Hurst (Homerton), A Spencer (St John's), J Rutter (St John's), O Clayton (Magdalene), D Maslen (Girton), D Fish (Trinity Hall), J Edwards (St Catharine's), E Simpson (Clare), R Calvert (Pembroke), J Motts (Robinson, captain), A Nelstrop (Girton), M Holmes (Peterhouse), R Earnshaw (St John's).

Referee: S Lander (Liverpool).

All Blacks may complain

THE rump of New Zealand's touring party reached Auckland yesterday still fulminating against accusations of dirty play made by Will Carling at the end of the tour of England and Scotland (David Hands writes).

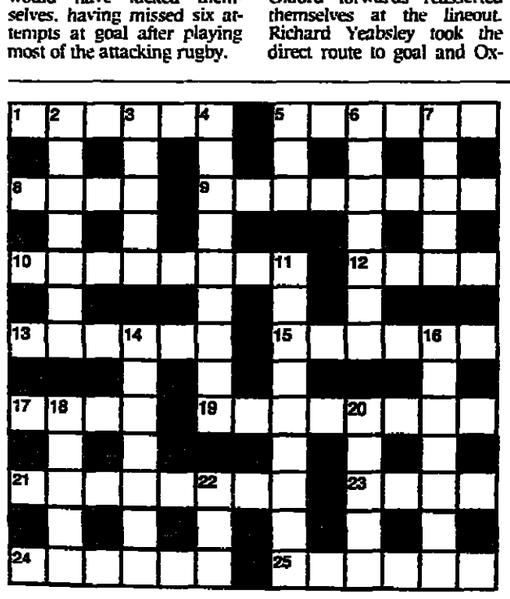
Neil Gray, the All Blacks' manager, said that they are considering making a formal protest, and Laurie Mains, the coach, emphasised that an enjoyable tour had been marred only by "a few silly players opening their mouths too much".

Meanwhile, Va'aiga Tuigamala, the Auckland wing, has denied any further contact with British rugby league clubs. Wigan made Tuigamala a handsome offer before the tour began.

Scott Gibbs, the Welsh centre injured playing for the Babarians in Saturday's final tour match, underwent surgery yesterday on his damaged right knee. Repair work on the lateral ligaments may keep him out of rugby for as much as six months, although the latest medical opinion suggests he could be fit in time for Wales's World Cup qualifying matches against Portugal and Spain in May.

Nigel Redman, one of England's heroes in their win over the All Blacks, must also take an enforced rest for the next month. The Bath lock broke a bone in his hand playing against Harlequins last weekend and will have an operation on Thursday to correct both that and a troublesome elbow condition.

Andy Moore, the former Oxford University scrum-half, will rest for three weeks after the eye-gouging incident during Cardiff's Heineken League win over Newbridge on Sunday. Moore said: "Something like this must never happen again and I hope there is an investigation." Alex Evans, Cardiff's coaching director, is studying video evidence of the match before contacting Newbridge.



CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: The Times Concise Crosswords — Books 1 & 2 (Special Edition 240 puzzles) £5.74 each, Books 3 & 4 £4.25 each. The Times Jumbo Crosswords — Book 1 £5.25, Book 2 £5.99, Concise Book 1 £5.99. The Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 13 £4.74 each, Books 14 to 16 £4.25 each. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 10 £4.74 each, Book 11 £4.25. Concise Books 1 & 2 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to *Akant Ltd*, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

Just released for Christmas. The Times Crosswords — Book 17. The Times Concise Crosswords — Book 5. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Book 12. £4.25 each.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 33

ACROSS
1 Sharp bend (3-3)
5 Temporarily uncultivated (6)
8 King of the Gods (4)
9 Uncommunicative (8)
10 Prediction (8)
12 Military stronghold (4)
13 Accompany (6)
15 Jungle strongman (6)
17 Professional cook (4)
19 Based on randomness (8)
21 Have one leg either side (8)
23 Bucket (4)
24 Grow feathers (6)
25 Clean engine of car (6)

DOWN
2 Burdensome (7)
3 Fine stocking cotton (5)
4 Rabelais' gluttonous giant (9)
5 Seizure (3)
6 Prince of Darkness (7)
7 One in possession . . . (5)
11 . . . the document confirming his right (5,4)
14 Impolitely casual (7)
16 Troubled by plane motion (7)
18 Commercial lodging (5)
20 Subject, theme (5)
22 Mate of buck (3)

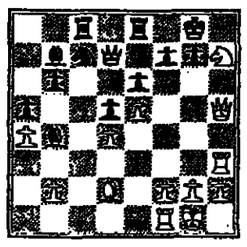
SOLUTION TO NO 32

ACROSS: 1 Carry 4 Couture 8 Almoner 9 Rabbi 10 Pulse 11 Asians 13 Onrush 15 Weapon 18 Milieu 20 Mouth 22 Helen 23 Banksia 24 Pasteur 25 Tense

DOWN: 1 Champion 2 Rambler 3 Yonge 4 Cereal 5 Upraise 6 Urban 7 Emir 12 Inchoate 14 Science 16 Pours on 17 Number 19 Idles 20 Monet 21 Ship

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



This position is a variation from the game Kasparov - Short, Speed Chess Savoy Theatre 1993. Can you spot White's strongest continuation? The official book of The Times World Chess Championship is available at £7.99 from The Times, Raymond Keene Offer, PO Box 11, Tadcaster, N Yorks LS24 9XA.

Solution, page 38

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

CONTRECTATION
a. Bearing false witness
b. Caressing furtively
c. Formal forensic denial

CAMBIST
a. An arbitrageur
c. A Cambridge graduate
c. A ricochet shot at curling

SOTERIAL
a. Pertaining to the underbelly
b. A small kedge anchor
c. To do with salvation

SPIGURNEL
a. Puck at roller-skate hockey
b. A king's sealer
c. Wild clematis

Answers on page 38

Capturing the bouquet of a grape as it bursts. That's a winemaker's lifetime ambition.



WINE MAKER'S NOTES
Exhibits natural apple, citrus fruit aromas and flavours of medium light intensity. Has a crisp, dry finish that's easily drinkable. Appropriate with mild cheeses, lamb, poultry, pork or veal.
Acidity 0.66g/100mL Residual sugar: Dry 1.0g/100mL pH 3.35. Minimum 6 months in bottle before release.

THE WINES OF
Ernest & Julio Gallo.